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Student Alliance

Year-round book buy back in effect

by Kaylee Van Hoose

JJC's student government, the Student Alliance, has plenty to handle these days. With an established year-round book buy back, a comment board in the works, new student trustee elections coming soon and the issue of electronic voting.

BOOK BUY BACK

Student Trustee James McFarland said he gathered thoughts and requests among the student body on the high cost of books. After his inquiries, McFarland claims to have initiated a year-round book buy back.

JJC buys the books from the company E-Follett. According to McFarland, if a student wants to sell books back, and the JJC bookstore wants the book to sell on the JJC campus, they pay 50% of the price of a new book directly to the student. If the JJC bookstore has

too many books already and not enough demand, they purchase the book on the behalf of E-Follett. E-Follett then sets a price that JJC pays, which is typically less than if the bookstore bought the book directly.

Previously, students could only sell their books back two weeks out of the year. Students were out of luck if their books weren't returned during this short time span.

According to McFarland, students can save more money by purchasing books on the Internet, but that causes the school to lose more money.

"In the long run, the school will make more money from selling used books because many students can't afford to buy new books every semester," McFarland said.



Student Alliance members listen attentively at a recent meeting

photo taken by Lorraine Guerrero

COMMENT BOX

To benefit students' wants and needs concerning various issues, the Student Alliance is organizing a comment board run by students. See "Alliance" on Page 3

"If students aren't going to save money by going to their own college's bookstore, they are going to boycott and use a more convenient source that will save them money," McFarland continued.

Cyber Cafe changes considered

by Heather Lawson

JJC has formed a committee to discuss changes in student recreation areas, such as the cyber cafe, and the game-room on the bridge.

"The original plan for the space in D1005 didn't include a cyber cafe. This thought was developed after the room was designed in an attempt to create a new kind of recreational space for students," said Pattie Fine, Director of Student Services and Activities. This idea has been a good one so far, but there have been some complaints in regards to noise and ventilation.

The committee is facing many options. One option consists of swapping the area that is presently

the computer lab with the area that is presently the lounge. Moving the tables and chairs would benefit the students by making more room for computer usage as well as an area that is separated from the noisy lounge.

If JJC goes with this plan, the food service will be moved from the hallway to the actual cyber-lounge.

Another plan being considered is building a programming area on the bridge with a Blazer/government area that would include staff offices. This would establish an Office of Student Services and Activities (OSSA) administrative presence and a meeting space for the clubs. This area would also be

equipped with a television.

JJC is also considering moving the game-room games, which are currently on the bridge, to the actual cyber-lounge.

The existing game-room on the bridge would become a TV room. However, if this plan is used, there will be no room for the food service in the cyber-lounge, and it will have to remain on the D-concourse.

There is one option that seems to be getting a lot of attention, and that is soundproofing the student lounge in D. It's use would be preserved for clubs and other programs offered by JJC. In this case, the cyber-lounge would be moved altogether to the bridge or to another

site on campus. There would be TVs installed in the present computer area.

The final option being discussed is the possible reconstruction of the second floor classrooms to serve as programming/recreation/meeting/TV site.

This plan would contain the noise to both floors in the D building. The complicated part to this option is finding another site for the classes presently held in that area.

All of these options would require a larger supervision staff, and more job opportunities may be offered. However, it's too early to say what or how many jobs might be made available.

Master Plan constructs future of JJC

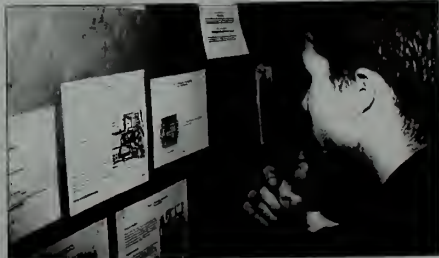
by Amy Lakeberg

A proposed master plan to guide growth JJC is currently being developed. This proposed plan contains three process stages: the short-term, intermediate-term and long-term goals.

The short-term goals are to be met in the next five years, the intermediate goals in the next six to ten years and the long-term goals in the next 11 to 15 years.

According to Seaver Tanulis, the director of the Physical Plant at JJC, additional parking and classrooms will be constructed at each term.

One short-term goal would be to construct a new campus center building. It will be located by the T-building and will house student-related services, including business, registration and student-aid. The main entrance will be through the T-building, which will be the new main campus building. Tanulis said this will help the students to locate the services better because they will then all be in one place.



Students check out details on the proposed master plan

The intermediate level of development includes a learning research center that will be built in the open area between the A, B and C buildings. This learning research center will be something like a library that students can use to help them with their studies.

The long-term level of development would include the construction of a physical

fitness/recreation room that will house more students.

Tanulis said long-term developmental ideas are difficult to propose.

"It's important to have some idea of what you might want to do," Tanulis said.

The administration met to review the plan Friday, Jan. 28 and Saturday, Jan. 29.

photo taken by Shane Lindsay

Meanwhile, the Board of Trustees will meet with the architects in the future.

"The board is the final group that is going to comment," Tanulis said. "Hopefully, when everything is done, we will have better signs, parking, roads-a better campus."

Each phase includes a number of changes. Here are a few high-See "Master Plan" on Page 4

Opinion

Television takes bad rap among punk rock elite

The latest claim among the punk rock elite is "I don't watch TV." It is a battle cry for those wishing to appear artistic and intellectual. TV has a bad rap, and I can't let it go on any longer. At risk of sounding uncreative and slow-witted, I love TV.

There are six TVs in my house, the majority of which are on at about 10-12 hours a day. I watch for about seven hours daily, less on weekends. My family is currently a Nielsen family, that is, what we watch gets included in the Nielsen ratings. No longer passive viewers, we keep track of every program we watch all day long.

When no one's home, I usually have two TVs on so I can get things done around the house and not miss anything on Court TV. The current trial involving a woman facing her third drink driving conviction has me particularly enthralled.

I am not a zombie. I am quite aware that TV programming exists only to allow advertisers to get to

Letters Make Words

by Natalie Mau



me. Well, they don't so I relax.

What gets me to tune in every day are good shows. The Simpsons. Drew Carey. Seinfeld. The Power Puff girls. Court TV. Politically Incorrect. DragonBall Z... and I eagerly await the day He-Man is back on the air. All in moderation, though. Like anything good, too much of one thing is bad. Sure, there are many better things to do than watch TV. Read a book, go outside, or go out with friends, for example. If watching TV once in a while is what makes you happy, though, then more power to you.

It's almost free, it's always available and even when nothing good is on you can make fun of

how bad everything else is. Chances are the very people who criticize you for watching TV are the same ones who sit online all day or who spend every night drinking their brain cells away in some smoky bar. People in glass houses shouldn't throw stones, right?

It's fascinating how snobbishly people express their distaste for TV and yet, studies by TV-free America show that 98 percent of American homes have at least one TV and each one is on for at least seven hours a day. Obviously, someone is watching a lot of TV and it can't all be me.

Like nose picking and drinking from the carton, watching TV is a guilty pleasure. Few will admit to

doing it, and fewer admit enjoying it.

For a society that shuns viewership, we sure get upset when "our shows" get cancelled. Don't we? Recall how Cheers and Seinfeld people were crying!

What would happen if (God forbid) The Simpsons got canceled? I for one would chain myself to Fox headquarters singing "All We Are Saying is Give Bart a Chance" until I was either arrested or arrested.

Before TV families gathered around the radio, and no one seemed to mind that. Today, 66 percent of families watch TV while they eat. Even families who don't watch together have something to talk about later after they all watch

the same programs.

TV encourages human interaction at some point, unlike the Internet. The Internet, I'm pretty sure, is dehumanizing us, and I love the Internet so that isn't bias speaking.

There are plenty of worthwhile TV shows on the air. From Politically Incorrect to Sesame Street. There's something for everyone. TV viewing is a matter of maturity and moderation. It's all about self-control. You can't allow yourself to be sucked in; know when to say when. Obviously, if you eat Cheez M-nms and watch Golden Girls re-runs all day you have a problem.

What I'm getting at is that people need to stop blaming TV for their own weaknesses. If your kid is stupid that's your fault; if you're lazy that's your fault; if a movie had you up all night, that's your fault. TV didn't strap you into your chair, you did.

Say it loud, you're programmed and proud!

What to wear in the professional world: stick to 'basics'

In a few short months many of us will be heading off into the "real world" to start our new careers or take internships. Our potential employers will of course be judging us by our background, our new-found skills, and yes, as sure as this is a column dedicated to vanity (or bashing them, oops...) these potential employers will be judging us somewhat on our appearance. So let's say we do get that first interview after they have seen our resumes via the internet. What are we to wear and after we do get the job, what then?

Well, once you do nab that first interview, it's time for a little shopping. Women, it is very important that you go into an interview with confidence. If you're wearing something that is just not comfortable, don't even bother. For example if you are usually a T-shirt and tennis shoes girl, then do not go in wobbling with three-inch heels and a low-cut blouse that you picked out of a Cosmopolitan magazine and your hair and make-up done by a salon.

The following is important: stick with the basics. A nice pair of black slacks and a button-up 3/4 sleeve shirt, a pair of knee-high nylon and a short, chunky-heeled pump. Accessories should be minimal as well. A nice watch says a lot. Not only are you stylish, but you also try to keep on task and on time. A pair of silver hoop earrings and a thin necklace accompanied by a small charm will do wonders. As far as make-up goes, apply as little as possible. Don't go out and buy the newest shade that looks absolutely astonishing on Cindy Crawford because you may not look right at all. Stick to neutral everything. If your hair is long, pin it up. Yes, even if your hair is healthy and beautiful.



Vanity for Oxymorons

Although this might sound extremely bland and unimpressive, remember you are not there to make a statement! Just make sure you're well groomed, your confidence is on the high side, and your clothes are just going to add the extra oomph to get you through!

Okay, so after you get that long-awaited job, what are you to do with all those jeans, high-heeled tennis shoes, and nothing but rainbow-colored clothing and accessories that you have been in love with since high school? Well, you don't have to throw them all away, but you definitely have to add to your wardrobe. Wear(what) do I even begin to start?

My friend Amy is now in the midst of "new wardrobe hell," as she calls it. She actually inspired this issue's column. Amy is now doing her student teaching in the classroom to succeed in getting her bachelor's degree in special education. She followed all of the simple first interview points that I mentioned. Problem is, she is still wearing the few basics I mentioned up above. Her case is a most difficult one. Amy was one for wearing a type of clothing that we shall just refer to as "non-conformist." She also had various piercings and many different hair styles/colors. In the past few weeks she has even gone to the depths of crying—she is in despair. So how can I possibly help her who can't?

What is a girl to do? Well, I thought about all of the places that I have and do get all my fashion information—the media's many mediums, i.e. internet, zines, chat rooms, E! Entertainment Fashion Emergency, watching award shows, even the news. I thought, wow, I have never watched them and seen them make over a girl like Amy who will be entering her new career in a short time. Then I thought, well, it's all going to have to go for her, almost.

Yes, I am afraid no nose rings, no eyebrow rings and even double ear piercing is frowned upon in the professional world.

Another sure-fire no-no is constant hair color changes.

I know this may make some of you depressed, yet others of you don't even have any of the above problems. What many of us do have a problem with is the pure blandness of wardrobes in the professional workplace. Nobody wants to go to work or even go out looking exactly like everyone else. Yet, we do find the need to look appropriate for the occasion, this one being career. Don't fret, with an added touch we can and should let our personalities shimmer through our new professional wardrobes. This added touch is known as a signature style.

How do we go about finding and showing off our signature style?

Well, let's say you have had this obses-

sion with wearing clothing and accessories with rainbows on them since high school, or you have had an obsession with funky shoes. Well, you can still wear some rainbow accessories—just minimize.

For instance, you can go to work with your plain interview type clothes everyday, but with a twist. As you go into the office, your co-workers might notice your charming, dainty, rainbow tie-die bracelet. The next day you might go in, and they will notice your beautiful pair of rainbow colored silver carrying hoops.

Well, then you're asking, "What about my funky shoe fetish?" This will be a little bit harder, but doable nonetheless. How about leaving the shoes for your private life and compromising with funky socks for work? Soon people will notice and look forward to seeing those cute monkey socks, i.e., your signature style.

Be creative, and have fun when you're deciding what your signature style is.

If you still are lost as to what basics are, there is a solution that will last forever. The word basic goes along very well with the word classic. Classic is a beautiful term. When I think of the beautiful term classic, I think of the beautiful, charming Audrey Hepburn.

So, here's your solution. Go to your local video store. Pick up a few movies starring Audrey Hepburn. *Roman Holiday*, *Sabrina*, and *Breakfast at Tiffany's* are just a few of my favorites. Anyhow, you will be delightfully entertained and I promise you will learn a lot. Not just what it means to dress in timeless classics, but how to wear them with charm, style and grace in modern times.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

A new school semester has begun. And to have another year of welcoming new students into JJC I would like to introduce myself as your Student Trustee of JJC for the 1999-2000 school year.

Formerly a student at Juliet West High School, I have spent a lot of time working with administrators and the community along with students to encourage their support of a worthwhile school such as JJC.

I am pleased to announce our newest benefits to JJC students. There is currently

year-round book buy-back and online ordering of transcripts.

I am still pursuing online access to all grades and schedules from any computer with Internet access.

The JJC Police Department is under some construction and will be running normally in a few months. Hopefully that will limit the theft that has been rapidly increasing. A few questions that were brought to my attention by students, that I feel I should address are as follows. "Where are the police records for the years 1996-1997?"

was asked when the Blazer's October issue was published stating those records had vanished. I brought this up for investigation at the December board meeting and hope these files will be located as soon as possible so that no state laws are violated.

The question pertaining to the JJC student handbook being written in English but in the Spanish Harassment section in Spanish and English. It is my job to notify you, the students, that there is no explanation of why the school published the handbook the way they did. To clarify those of you who were

told it was a law, it is not. I had JJC attorney look into this alleged law. His finding, which is in memo form, indicates there is no law that requires the school to publish the handbook the way it has been.

If you feel the handbook should be in English only or feel that they should leave the handbook the way it currently is, contact me at 280-2207 or contact Pattie Fine in Student Services.

James McFarland
JJC Student Trustee

News

Teachers utilize Blackboard with 222 websites

by Lorraine Guerrero

Through a software program the college purchased called Blackboard CourseInfo 4.0, a web-based instructional system, JUC is now able to offer on-line courses.

This is the college's first school year to offer on-line courses. So far there are eight courses being offered, which are ART 109 "Introduction to Art," CIS 246 "Advanced C using C++," FMR 131 "History of Fashion," HIST 106 "History of Civilization II," HRM220 "Hospitality Organization," Math 094 "Elementary Algebra," MATH131

"College Algebra," and SPCH101 "Fundamentals of Speech Communication."

The program was actually made available in the summer of 1999. While the program started out with only seven web sites to help supplement on-campus classes, the program now has 222 web sites.

Many more students are using the blackboard program than just those taking on-line courses. Instructors are taking advantage of its many features and are having their on-campus students use it to supplement.

The program has three key features, according to administrator Scott Wennerdahl. Access to documents on demand, communication, and personal assessment.

Access to documents on demand is a key point because the student and instructor can get to the material needed, such as the syllabus, homework assignments, tests, etc., whenever and from wherever they are, which is one of the main reasons students choose to take classes online.

"It's just convenient," says Wennerdahl.

Blackboard's communication

center is very helpful and includes features such as e-mail, a discussion board, and a virtual classroom called Real Time Chat.

The discussion board is open only to those who are in the specific section or class to help them evaluate or discuss a problem they are having in the class, post solutions or give advice.

Real Time Chat is kind of like a discussion board, but has even greater opportunity. For instance, if you're in fashion merchandising, the instructor could actually set up a date and time for a fashion designer to be on-line in your sec-

tion's virtual classroom.

Students could ask questions of the designer, and get an immediate response, just like a chat room. Students who could participate in the chat would be only those in that specific section.

"Right now there is a major division between those who take on-line classes and on-campus classes," Wennerdahl said. "In the future, on-line classes will put more of an emphasis on opportunities available on-campus, and on-campus students will focus somewhat more on-line," said Wennerdahl.

Student trustee elections to be electronic in 2001

Alliance (Continued from Page 1)

The Student Alliance surveyed students at Main Street, and results showed people are in favor of a comment system. According to Pattie Fine, Student Alliance adviser, the comment board is still in a developmental stage. Suggestions for a comment system include a comment board, where students could post questions one day, and answers could be posted the next day.

STUDENT TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

Student Trustee elections are coming soon in March. At press

time, the Student Alliance was discussing changes to the student trustee election process.

One change Student Alliance is looking into for next year's election is electronic voting. The advantages to this new change include convenience and easier tallying.

With electronic voting, the student can vote 24 hours a day, so the election is not affected by the polls having to close.

"Electronic voting is more secure, faster and more accessible," said Jenny Gable, Student Alliance vice president.

The computer would cross reference the student's information to ensure he or she is in a fact, and would automatically tally election results.

"There would be no human error," said Gable.

The computer system can verify whom the student has voted for and if they voted twice. All duplicate social security numbers registered would be deleted, and the votes would not be counted.

Although this new system can benefit students in convenience, there has been concerns about voters' privacy. With the system used last year, students would identify themselves, they would be marked off to indicate they voted, and then they would vote on a separate card.

With an electronic system, students would identify themselves with their student ID number or social security number, and then vote for the candidate of their choice. The concern lies in the student's identity being linked with their vote.

"I feel this (electronic voting) isn't secure enough. I don't feel comfortable knowing that the votes

"It is the Alliance's hope to spend the next year fully investigating and developing a system that will allow them to hold the 2001 election via the Internet."

-Student Alliance adviser
Pattie Fine

of fellow students can easily be tampered with as well as easily traced," said student Eric Zabel.

However, according to Gable, the system would be secure and encoded, and no one would have access to that information. "We just want to see the end result. No one would see who voted for who," said Gable.

There was also concern that an electronic voting system would be easy to tamper with. However, "matters such as students presenting false social security or ID numbers, multiple vote casting and campaigning within a polling site could be problems with on-line voting, or paper ballot systems," said Fine.

"The members of the Alliance concluded that in any election there

is always the possibility of tampering and potential for fraud," said Fine. "I believe the Student Alliance discussed this matter fully and came to the conclusion that no matter what they decided to do there were challenges in maintaining a secure election."

The Alliance voted at the Feb. 3 meeting to use a paper system for this year's election.

"The issue of (vote) tracing was of a particular concern and was discussed at length. Although the members concern that voting by computer is the wave of the future, they were more concerned about this matter and it ultimately became, in my opinion, the item that caused the group to feel they needed to do more investigating before proceeding with automation," said Fine.

The Alliance plans to look into different aspects of electronic voting for elections next year, however.

"It is the Alliance's hope to spend the next year fully investigating and developing a system that will allow them to hold the 2001 election via the Internet," said Fine.

NIU's Xtreme Lit outdoor education

by Jennifer Bean

Beginning on June 12, Northern Illinois University is hosting a new type of literature class. Xtreme Lit is for graduates and undergraduate students who want to experience a different type of learning.

Professor David Barrows stated, "the cost of the program is \$2,500 and includes enrollment for 6 credit hours in English, transportation from DeKalb to Colorado and back, food and lodging during the field experience, guides and permits, and all group and technical equipment of the field activities." The virtual class begins on June 12, and runs until July 7.

The students are required to read eight texts in order to discuss them during the field portion of the class.

The eight texts include: *Letters from Yellowstone* by Diane Smith; *Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage* by Alfred Lansing; *Into Thin Air* by Jon Krakauer; *Lord Grizzly* by Frederick Manfred; *A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson; *The Nineteen Wolves* by Rick Bass; *The Island Within* by Richard Nelson; and *A Different Angle: Fly Fishing Stories* by William by Holly Morris.

During this time students must keep journals and create some ideas for the final project. On July 7 the students will leave from DeKalb by van and travel to the Outpost Wilderness

Adventure's Base Camp in central Colorado and will not return until July 28.

Students will then participate in climbing, hiking, fishing and backpacking for several days. From there, the students will travel to Yellowstone National Park where they will engage in approximately 10 days of backpacking in Yellowstone.

As in any class, the students will have assignments. In the virtual part of the class, students must write abstracts on each of the books. These abstracts will be approximately 250-500 words. The abstracts should be no more than 20 typed pages and will be due on July 1 before students can attend the field portion of the class.

The students are also asked to begin writing a journal. The excerpts from their journals will be useful in the field experience.

Once the students begin the field portion of the class, they will be paired up in order to give presentations on one of the texts and discuss the books with the other students. When the students return home they are to submit a final project, usually a 10 to 15-page paper. Students should consult with Barrow or Professor Frank Court in regards to any questions to the final project.

Barrows suggests, "if anyone is interested in being a part of the Xtreme Lit program, please look into the web site at <http://www.owa.com>."



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NEWS BRIEFS

JCC set to host its third annual Empowerment 2000 conference

JJC will host its third annual Empowerment 2000 Sex, Gender and Power Conference Feb. 10 at the college's City Center Campus, 214 N. Ottawa St. Joliet.

The conference begins with continental breakfast and networking at 7:30 a.m. and runs through 2:30 p.m.

Featured guest speakers are Detective J.J. Bittenbinder of the Cook County Sheriff's Department and Ruth Z. Sweetser, assistant dean, Business and Industry Relations, Illinois Institute of Technology.

Bittenbinder will discuss "tough target" strategies and "street smart" skills. He has appeared on CNN, "The Oprah Winfrey Show" and is the safety specialist for ABC's "Good Morning America."

Sweetser has made guest appearances on radio, CBS' "Common Ground" and numerous cable programs and has presented to more than 60 organizations statewide on gender equity issues. Since 1996 she has been a member of the Gender Equity Advisory Committee of the State Board of Education.

General sessions will address media images of women, women in science, women and diversity, gender-based violence, and gender and communication. A lunch, prepared by JJC Culinary Arts students, is included.

Registration is required. Admission is free for JJC students registered for the Spring 2000 semester. Cost for all others is \$15. Call 280-1555 and register for JOBS 999-T1, or if you are a registered student, use # JOBS 999T2.

For more information on the seminar or speakers, call (815) 280-2227.

AUDITIONS TODAY

Auditions for "Steel Magnolias" will be held today, Wednesday, Feb. 9, from 5-8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Theatre. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script and are open to all Community College District 525 residents.

FASHION CAREER DAY

A Fashion Merchandising-Design-Interior Design Career Day will be held Feb. 18 from 9 a.m.-noon in K0012.

BLACK HISTORY

MONTH

JJC will host its fourth annual "Tribute to Men of Color," in honor of Black History Month.

Professional men of color will be invited to showcase their occupations to JJC students from 10 a.m.-noon Friday, Feb. 25. A luncheon will follow at 12:15 p.m.

For more information, call (815) 729-9020, ext. 2455.

TRIVIA CHALLENGE

Test your knowledge of Black History by competing against other JJC students at the Black History Month Trivia Challenge Tuesday, Feb. 22, at noon on the bridge. Sign up in the Multicultural Transfer Center to be placed on a team. Prizes will be awarded and study guides will be available.

COLLEGE BOWL

The JJC College Bowl Team took first place at the South Suburban Region College Bowl Fall Tournament on Dec. 10.

Team members are Michael Fletcher of Channahon, Brian Hsieh of Joliet, Gerald

O'Malley of Frankfort and Nicholas Rakes of Morris.

VALENTINE'S DAY

LUNCH

On Sunday, Feb. 13, the JJC Renaissance Center 214 N. Ottawa, Joliet, will host a champagne brunch in honor of Valentine's Day. The brunch will run from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

A few of the items on the menu are chef-carved prime rib, roasted pork tenderloin, English-style cod, chicken breasts in champagne sauce, omelets (made to order), bacon and sausage, hard brownies, seafood quiche, parished new potatoes, mushroom plaf, smoked salmon platter and assorted desserts. Cost is \$12.95 for adults, \$11.95 for senior citizens and \$6.95 for kids 12 and under. Call 280-1404 for reservations.

SELL OLD TOYS

The International Toy Collectors Association's Toy Roadshow is on a national tour and will be coming to the Joliet area Feb. 10, 11, and 12 at the Holiday Inn Express, 411 S. Larkin, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Associates will be on hand to purchase toys and collectors will also be on hand to purchase jewelry, coins, watches and clocks. The International Toy Collectors Association is also interested in any broken toys that may be used for parts.

It is advised not to attempt to clean toys that have been stored for long periods of time for fear of destroying the finish and decreasing the value. There is no charge for admission or information on items. For further information call 217-636-8012.

Need help making your career decisions happen?

Career Planning and Placement looks ahead to your future goals

The Career Planning and Placement Office, located in the Student Center, D-1010, extension 2756, can help you continue the career planning process after you have learned about yourself (looked inward), learned about occupations (looked outward) and made some tentative decisions about what you want to do.

The next steps to look at when looking forward to go in the direction(s) you have decided. Typically, this preparation might involve acquiring the skills and knowledge you will need to enter the chosen occupation(s).

This could mean you will need to look at higher education programs (certificate, associate degree or bachelors degree), specialized training offered by private programs, apprenticeship programs or on-the-job training. They can help you find information about these kinds of programs, costs, etc.

They will also suggest that you contact people working in your chosen occupation(s) to ask them about preparation needed, among

many other things. They can help prepare you for these "informational interviews." They also have access to the CareerNet resource network, coordinated by the Counseling Office and eventually the Alumni Office.

CareerNet might be able to

supply you with names of local people in your occupation(s) of choice to help with this part of the process.

These are the first steps in "looking forward." See the next Blazer issue for "looking forward," part two.

Help Wanted

For the Blazer:

Production Assistant-

Leads to paid position quickly. Knowledge of QuarkExpress and Desktop Publishing preferred. Experience not mandatory.

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Master Plan (Continued from Page 1)

lights:

- Short-term goals
- New campus center building located by the T-building
- house student-related services
- the T-building will become the main entrance
- Student apartment complex
- on-campus apartment complex will be built by a private developer
- Construction of a pedestrian bridge located between T and J buildings
- open bridge across the lake
- wide enough for plowing tools

- New campus signs
- Second road entrance to the south of the campus leading to Houbolt
- Intermediate-term goals
- Learning Research Center -built by the A, B and C buildings
- new physical plant built by the new campus center
- Long-term goals
- New physical fitness recreation room
- New Fine Arts Theatre
- Re-construction of athletic fields
- Improvements to the road system

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Features

Mainstreet Survey

Value surveys value following directions

by Natalie Mau

On Jan. 25 and 26, the Blazer conducted a survey concerning values in accordance with the theme of Mainstreet. Participating JIC students completed a short questionnaire about personal and social values.

Results of the survey were almost completely inconclusive. The yes or no and one-to-five ranking questions generated several unusable answers due to failure to follow directions. For example, in response to the question "Do you think the following should be legal, yes or no?" many students marked choices with an "X" or a check mark. The assumption was that these marks meant "yes" but assumptions could not be tallied. Other students responded with numbers, as though they were ranking how legal each item should be. One student responded, "alcohol" and "marijuana 6".

Other questions asked students to rank one-to-five how important several values are to their personality and how valuable each of those values is in society. Several students responded with numbers that are not between one and five. For example, when asked how important



Mainstreet, held on Jan. 25 and Jan. 26, had a theme of "A Celebration of Shared Values for a Stronger Tomorrow."

photo taken by Jennifer Bean

education is, one student answered "six." Another student wrote in a "negative five" about how important friendship is in society. Several other students responded to various questions with zeros.

The results that could be tallied did, however, produce some surprising results. Participants

were asked how important they feel appearance is. 20 percent said they find appearance very important, 60 percent said they didn't find appearance important at all, and another 20 percent responded somewhere in between very important and not important at all. When asked how important society con-

sidered appearance, however, 76 percent said society values appearance very much and only 16 percent said they don't think society values appearance at all. Over half of participating students do not find their own or other people's appearances very important, but most believe that society places a great

deal of importance on looks.

Many students, 76 percent, value equality and equal pay for equal work very highly. Eighty percent of students responded that they find the right to privacy very valuable. This finding was also evident when 72 percent responded that it was not important to know the details of the Clinton/Lewinsky affair.

Votes tended to follow patterns; for example, people who voted that prayer in school should be legal also tended to vote that abortion and same-sex marriages should be illegal. Voters who thought alcohol and tobacco should remain legal also voted for the legalization of marijuana.

Slightly surprising results from a survey conducted among college students were those concerning the importance of education and career. Sixty percent of respondents found education very valuable while only 16 percent said they found career of great importance. On the other hand, the poll showed that only 32 percent said society values education very highly and 68 percent believed that career is highly valued by the public.

Y2K arrives, no Armageddon

by Michelle Tarrant

Power outages, computer viruses and worldwide panic.

Sound vaguely familiar? The Y2K countdown to possible chaos has come and gone without a glitch. Cities nationwide spent unbelievable amounts of money for New Year's celebrations yet the big parties had an all-time low turnout.

Although tens of thousands descended on cities around the globe such as Rome, Rio de Janeiro, and even Chicago, New York's Times Square celebration had a turnout of about two million. That may seem like quite a lot in comparison to others, yet it was an unusually low turnout for New

York's annual festivity.

"Some things the media said may have worried people," said JIC student Karlene Melton when asked about the low turnout in Times Square. "I don't think the threats of terrorists played a role, but instead, the coverage of possible wide-spread power outages and Y2K computer bugs made people stay indoors this New Year's."

Many people in countries all over the world, including Americans, chose to stay indoors and enjoy New Years at home with family and close friends. At the same time, others took caution, believing the worst was about to come.

Eric Wierzbicki kicked back

with a few pals. "I went out to a party at a friends house, nothing big," said Wierzbicki when asked about his New Year's plans.

From the beginning of 1999 to the very last second, most individuals seemed to be wondering if situations the media had suggested throughout the year to happen were about to come true. With only days left until the year 2000, threats of terrorist attacks on U.S. soil and arrests in connection to the supposed attacks, left some cities such as Seattle, Wash., to reduce and even cancel the New Year's fun.

"I was disappointed that something didn't happen," said Melton when asked if she expected more random chaos to occur around the world during Y2K. "The media made me believe Armageddon was going to happen. They promised me the goods, and they didn't deliver."

Most JIC students however, disregarded the warnings and worries stirred up by the media and decided to party like it was 1999.

"I got a hotel room and partied with a few close friends," Amanda Faber said. "We almost got kicked out thanks to our over-flowing toilet and noisily snoring friend, but hey it was worth it!"

With over \$6.8 billion spent by the U.S. government on Y2K bugs and flaws it seemed that most people still set worries aside, went out and enjoyed this once in a lifetime event to the fullest.

One JIC student did, however, report a Y2K imperfection to laugh about.

"It was all so ridiculous, I have seen one Y2K-related issue, and that was at Ace Hardware. The register read the year as 19100 instead of 2000. What a glitch!" Joe Martin said.

Horoscopes

by Amy Lakeberg

Aquarius (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)

The love of your life may be just around the corner. A friend, co-worker or a classmate could be your next romance.

Pisces (Feb. 19 to March 20)

Stop fantasizing about your love life. Yes, it can be hard to come to reality with love. But you have to reach out.

Aries (March 21 to April 20)

Your love life has ceased to exist, yet things will perk up again when you get back together with an ex from a year or two ago. Don't let your differences pull you apart.

Taurus (April 21 to May 21)

Use some of your practical side in your love life. A flaw or two could stand in the way, but don't let it bother you.

Gemini (May 21 to June 21)

The space you need in order to carry on your sense of spirit and free-will will not conquer over the feelings you have for the person you are falling in love with this Valentine's Day. Go with the flow.

Cancer (June 22 to July 21)

It's been hard for you since the breakup of a friendship. Try calling this person over Valentine's Day. It may work out, and it looks like you might have plans.

Leo (July 23 to Aug. 22)

Don't force yourself to commit to someone who you are unsure about getting together with. This person you think you love may not be who they say they are.

Virgo (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)

Don't try to change your girlfriend/boyfriend. Everyone has their own ideals and interests. Give them the recognition they deserve, or maybe they'll change their mind about you.

Libra (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)

Although you are primarily single right now, the friendliness of others is really playing a part in your life right now. Don't get yourself down about Valentine's Day. If you really like someone, go for it, or hang out with their other single friends.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)

Unlikely for you, your relationship right now, consists all the drama and intensity that you love. Hold on, it's a keeper.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23 to Dec. 21)

When! You have had one heck of a run! People don't realize that you are at a confused point right now, so you're likely have two love interests right now, one up front and one waiting in the wings. Decide soon which one you love better before you lose both.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)

The importance you seek with relationships is easy to find this Valentine's Day. Despite it all, don't let your ego get in the way.

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Features

Campus and online bookstores: the search for the best buy

by Natalie Mau

Tom Green and a giant banana. That's supposed to have college students abandoning the old tried-and-true campus bookstore and bounding towards their computer screens to purchase textbooks online.

College students, however, know better. It's going to take more than a wacky Canadian and an overgrown piece of fruit to get them off their couches and in front of their computers. It's going to take savings and convenience.

So which online text merchants are worthwhile anyway? Here's the lowdown on a few of them, comparing price, convenience, and availability.

Three texts are used in this comparison: *Practical Business Math Procedures*, 6th edition paperback, by Jeffery Slater. *Editing Today*, 1996 edition hard-

cover by Ron F. Smith and Loraine M. O'Connell, and *Understanding Computers Today and Tomorrow*, 1998 edition paperback, by Charles S. Parker. The assumption is that each book is purchased new.

First, the campus bookstore: the math book goes for \$71.10 here, the editing text for \$43.60 and the computer book for \$22.05. Early shoppers can usually get used books for less, and new books are readily available.

The bookstore isn't entirely inconvenient, but it does require leaving one's house, searching that online merchants do not. It also involves waiting for help, carrying several heavy books and waiting in line for an hour to an hour.

Next up is Varsitybooks.com: the same three texts listed above were available at this site. The prices were \$66.09, \$33.36 and

\$56.53, respectively. The first two books are less expensive than those at the bookstore were, but the third is significantly higher in price.

Keep in mind, however, that online sellers do not charge sales tax, and bookstores do. The site is easy to navigate and loads fast despite being cluttered with ads for things college students are expected to want. Varsitybooks.com has a flat shipping rate of \$4.95 despite order size.

Bigwords.com is by far the coolest-looking site reviewed, with its Japanese animation theme and funny FAQs. One read, "Does Mr. Pink die at the end of Reservoir Dogs?" The prices on the math and editing books were also less than at the bookstore: \$49.84 and \$31.46, but again, the computer text was significantly more expensive at \$51.32. They do offer used books for less, so comparative shopping

might be worthwhile: shipping at Bigwords.com is free.

The ugly duckling of online textbooks merchants is Textbooks.com with its orange, red and black color scheme.

The prices are no beauty, either. The math text is \$64.35 and they're asking \$7.75 for the editing text: the computer text isn't even offered. Textbooks.com offers used books, too, but with a shipping rate of \$4.95 that increases with order size, it hardly seems worth the trouble.

Customers of Fatbrain.com must also have fat wallets because this site is expensive!

The math book is a whopping \$76.15 here, the editing text goes for \$41.95 and the computer book is \$66.50. Shipping rates increase the more you buy. The site itself is confusing and almost unintelligible because it's so cluttered with ads.

Ecampus.com almost stole the show with a \$33.93 price tag on the math text, but neither of the other two texts was offered at this well-advertised site. Shipping here is free and the site is easy to navigate; it might be worth the trouble to get what is available at this site and then fill in what is needed from other sources.

It wasn't until the search was over that TextBookFound.com was discovered. This site searches many text sellers online and produces a price list from which the consumer may pick the best deals and order them all in one place. It's easy to use, and even allows the user to send a wish list to whoever is actually paying for the books.

Nothing beats comparative shopping, and until web purchasing reaches perfection, the old pick-and-choose method seems to be the best bet for a good deal.

STD awareness campaign targets teens

Kaylee Van Hoose

The American Social Health Association (ASHA) has recently won various awards for its campaign, "Know the Facts. Know for Sure." Targeting young adults (ages 15-19), this campaign has received two national awards for its excellence in health communications including 1999 Media Award and the Health Improvement Institute's Aesculapian Award.

The ASHA is a trusted partner with the center for disease control and prevention while operating the national AIDS, STD immunization and the National Herpes Resource Center hotlines.

The campaign's efforts focused on the issue of concern for teens to "know the facts about STDs," and for those teens who are already sexually active to "know for sure" by making sure they are regularly getting tested for various STDs.

According to a ASHA news release, the campaign's key messages to teens were:

"If you are sexually active, you may be at risk for getting an STD. You may have an STD and not know it, since many don't have signs or symptoms."

"Left untreated, STDs can lead to long-term medical conse-

quences.

The only way to know for sure if you have an STD is to get tested."

By 1998, more than half of America's teens (ages 15-19) had sex, which makes these teens at risk of becoming infected with STDs. According to the ASHA/Kaiser Report, "STDs in America in 1998," about a quarter of the 15.3 million new STD cases each year occur in teens.

One in five people in the U.S. has an STD, while 2/3 of all STDs occur in people younger than 25 years of age.

The ASHA is concerned that teens don't know the importance of increased awareness of STDs. Many factors contribute to the need for awareness and prevention programs to target young people. These factors include:

"Teens may be more likely to have multiple sex partners, rather than singular, long-term relationships."

"Teens may be less likely to use condoms consistently and correctly."

"Teens may experience barriers to quality STD prevention services, including lack of insurance, lack of transportation, discomfort with services designed for adults and concerns about confidentiality."

The ASHA has also provided websites contributing to STD awareness that target teens. The services of www.stdsonline.org and www.iwanaknow.org provide teens with information about several STDs including facts, descriptions, symptoms and who is affected.

According to the ASHA sponsored website, compared to other adult women, female teens are more susceptible to cervical infections, such as gonorrhea and chlamydia, due to their immature cervix.

According to The Hidden Epidemic: Confronting Sexually Transmitted Diseases, although many STDs are curable, many are not and all can lead to serious and enduring health consequences.

According to *Testing Positive: Sexually Transmitted Disease and the Public Health*, people with an active syphilis, genital herpes, or chancroid infection, or who have chlamydia, gonorrhea, or trichomoniasis are three to five times more likely to contract HIV if exposed than other people.

Helpful links for those who want more information on STDs are:

www.teenviv.com

www.sexet.com

www.kidshelth.org/teen/midnbody/std.html

www.teenadviceonline.org

The ASHA urges teens to learn more about prevention by using these websites, helpful links, and even several hotlines for more information about services in their

area. Also, people can call any of the following numbers:

•CDC National AIDS Hotline:

1-800-342-AIDS

•CDC National STD hotline:

1-800-227-8922

•National Herpes Hotline:

919-361-8488

Students share different plans for Valentine's Day

by Craig S. Harju Jr.

What are your plans for Valentines Day?

Are you doing the same old thing? A box of candy and flowers, again? Where's the romance in that? Where is that winged guy with the bow and arrows with the heart-shaped tip to help bring the romance back?

Pondering this, the question was put forward to JJC students. "What different ways could you be spending this Valentines Day?"

"A bunch of us single girls are going out for a single girls night out," said Jen Hawkins. Only cupid knows what's in store for these ladies. Of course there are also those JJC students who

are going out on Valentines Day as a couple.

"Getting a limo and driving to downtown Chicago. First to the Art Museum, then to the Cheesecake Factory. Then we would yacht ride on the lake, then we would have a helicopter ride, landing in my backyard," said Sarah Kramer. Of course for other JJC students, a slightly less hectic night sounds good.

"A campfire in the middle of the woods so you have to cuddle," said Laurie Bierman.

So if you're just going out with a group of single friends, flying by helicopter to your house, or cuddling by a warm fire, here's hoping cupid takes aim at you.

Don't be afraid...

by Ryan Ruffatti



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Sports

JJC Football

MacDougall replaces Kalb as Wolves' head coach

During the last 17 football seasons, Joliet Junior College has gone through nine coaches. In that span, the Wolves have posted a 56-103 record, rising above .500 only three times.

That may change for the better with JJC naming Bob MacDougall on Friday as the Wolves' football coach.

MacDougall, 56, is one of the winningest coaches in the National Junior College Athletic Association. During a successful 21-year tenure at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, MacDougall was 174-59, fifth-best on the all-time NCAA victory list entering the 1999 season.

While at DuPage, MacDougall — who coached at DuPage from 1976-96 until the school opted to drop the program — turned the Chaparrals program into a national powerhouse. DuPage set the NCAA all-time winning streak of 36 games from '93 through the first game of the '96 season.

MacDougall, a linebackers' coach at Class 6A state champion Naperville Central High School the last two years, now has the task of turning around a sagging JJC program, which flourished in the '70s and early '80s under Jerry Vest.

"We hope to become highly competitive at Joliet. I'm not coming here if we cannot become competitive," said MacDougall, an NCAA Football Hall of Famer. "We want to be better than 500 next season. We will strive to win conference and state championships as quickly as possible."

"But before a team learns how to win on a consistent basis, though, they have to learn to be competitive. Teams have to learn what it takes to be cohesive, competitive and that's what we plan to do. We want to set our goals and aspirations high and then achieve them. But that is going to take diligent work from everyone, from the coaches down through the players."

The Wolves were 5-5 in '99 after going 5-4 a year earlier. Following his second season, Wolves' coach Matt Kalb resigned.

A proven winner, MacDougall coached 37 All-American players at DuPage, which played in 13 bowl games (8-5 record), won eight North Central Community College Conference championships and 11 Region IV state crowns in his 21 seasons. MacDougall had three perfect seasons (12-0 in '93 and '95, 11-0 in '94) at DuPage besides going 11-1 twice and 10-2 twice.

"We are pleased to have a quality individual such as Bob MacDougall running our football program. Bob knows what it takes to produce a winning program and keep it at a high level of excellence," said Wayne King, JJC's Director of Athletics. "Bob does command respect and that is what he will receive from his student-athletes, opposing coaches and people in general."

The '95 NCAA Coach of the Year.

MacDougall guided DuPage, which for unknown reasons dropped the sport only to reinstate it last fall, to a No. 2 national ranking in 1993 and 1995. The Chaparrals were ranked fourth nationally in 1994.

Joliet has not won a conference or Region IV state championship in something like 20-22 years. We want to change that around, along with some attitudes toward football. It will be a tremendous challenge," said MacDougall. "My objective is to change that attitude around. I think we are close, but we are not where we want to be."

"It is the job of the coaches and I to move the program up a notch."

MacDougall, who is retired, coached numerous DuPage players who made it to the National Football League, including Aaron Bailey (Louisville) and Mike Bellamy (Illinois).

Information provided by JJC Sports Information Dept.

Baseball, softball gearing up for spring season

by Nikki Sheridan

Spring may not feel close to the students and faculty at Joliet Junior College, but it sure feels like it to the college's 2000 baseball and softball teams. The upcoming spring baseball and softball season may be short, but it is a busy one. The teams have already begun practicing and preparing.

In less than one month, the men's baseball team will kick off its first game of the season and the first game of its spring trip in Nashville, Tenn. There are not many new recruits this season but there are a high number of returning sophomores. Head Coach Wayne L. King has a positive feeling about the returns and will be counting heavily on the sophomores this season.

"They run the team. They're in charge of the team," King said.

Having 17 sophomores with a lot of returning experience will allow King to be "very optimistic about the chances this year."

A key returner for JJC is pitcher Brandon Ricketts. He led the Wolves with eight wins last season. In a recent conversation, Ricketts said he feels the team has "a lot of leaders" and is backed up by "a strong pitching staff" as well. Other top pitchers are Nick Amato, Eric Blasler, Jake Prince and new

Men's Basketball

After win over IVC, Wolves coast to 17-8

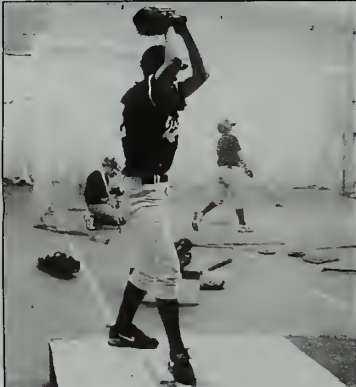
by Tony Ciampa

In a game that was decided by streaks, the men's JJC Wolves basketball team put together a great effort against Rock Valley to win 75-59. Then, on Feb. 5, JJC defeated Illinois Valley, 94-85.

The Wolves improved their record to 17-8 overall and 4-2 in the conference.

The Rock Valley win was attributed to the stellar defense of the Wolves as they held Rock Valley to only 34.6 percent shooting from the floor and forces 18 turnovers. Jason Standford, who scored 19 points in the game, led the Wolves offense.

Also contributing to the game highs were Dustin Smith, who contributed 15 points and 11 assists, and Jelan Clark with 13 points and



JJC pitchers escape winter elements during an indoor practice.

photo taken by Lorraine Guerrero

corner Pat Molinari from Plainfield High School.

Catching for the Wolves this year will be John Raun, who led the team in 1991. Other infielders include Andy Urbancic, first base; Derek Gardner and Jason Vitas, battling

for second base; Brian McDonald, third base; and Dave Simmonis, shortstop. The top outfielders are Ryan Koerner, Tom Fabek, Mark Joist and Conor McGarr, a transfer student from Prairie State.

This year's team is not only well-rounded, but King feels it also

has "good pitching, speed, power, and defense." Overall, King appears excited to see what the season will bring.

Like the baseball team, the 2000 women's softball team will open its season in the beginning of March. The first game will take place in Pensacola, Fla., and the team will continue to play there during the spring vacation. The team earned a place in the Nationals last spring.

Looking ahead, the journey to Nationals may be a tougher one this year. Not only do the girls have to be powerful in the Region IV Tournament, but the winner of that also plays the Region 12 winner.

However, this season's goal is the same as always: advance to the national tournament and win at least 10 games. Last season's team finished in second place at the finals.

"This year's team has their work cut out for them in order to reach the accomplishments of last year's team," said Head Coach Jack Smith.

This year's team is split, with six returning sophomores and six

newcomers. One new recruit is Natalie Coleman, a graduate of Morris High School, who will be the top pitcher for the Lady Wolves.

Besides Coleman, new players include Kristin Bols, also from Morris, who will be in the left field; Christina Riley, from Joliet Catholic Academy, will start at shortstop; and Anna Wallace and Jenny Simulak will be the other two pitchers. Allison Carpenter, an infielder from Wilmington, and Kristina Munch are new faces on the team as well.

Returning players for JJC are Lisa Gierich, third base; Tracy Phillips, center field; Stephanie Sharp, second base; Georgie Symcak, catcher; Traci Jasper, first base; and Jenna Pastern, utility infielder.

With a healthy split of new recruits and returning sophomores, Smith has high hopes for another successful season.

"This team will strive to create its own identity," Smith said. "Based on the work ethic and talent of the current year, this year's team has a good chance of going a long way."

Lady Wolves striving for late-season streak

by Tony Ciampa

Winning convincingly over Rock Valley 71-64, the JJC women's basketball team showed a team on the verge of becoming a cohesive team.

Leading the team in points was Mary McNeal with 24 points. McNeal seconds Tracy Phillips' 5.1 assists average with an average of 3.6. Putting in the most rounded performance of the night was Felicia Randle. Randle, who leads the team with 13.6 rebounds and averages 2.8 steals, helped put in 21 points and grabbed 20 rebounds.

Coming off the bench, sophomore Yolanda Pearson gave the Wolves a much-needed double-double with 10 points and 11 rebounds. She follows Randle with an average of 7.5 rebounds.

Also of great assistance to the all-around team effort were guard Taihi Graham, who dished out nine assists and center Christy Beary, who had nine points and nine rebounds.

With the record of the women's basketball team two games over .500 at 13-11 overall and 3-2 in the conference, the team has hopes to keep up its winning ways for the final five games. The Region IV Division III Semifinals are on Friday, March 3, at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Head Coach Tim Johnson will be looking to his team to keep up the good playing in the next few games. The play off the bench may become a major factor in how far this team will go into the playoffs.



Inside

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Trustees to vote on tuition increase

by Lorraine Guerrero

Joliet Junior College tuition will increase by \$2 per credit for the 2000-2001 school year, if approved by the Board of Trustees March 8, and will continue to rise each year by a couple of dollars, according to the projections made in the Joliet Junior College Financial Plan prepared by Tom Ryan, vice president of Business Services.

For example, a student taking 15 credit hours will be looking forward to a \$30 increase in tuition per semester or \$60 increase for both semesters. This does not include increases in fees because the fees would only affect students taking the specific subject in which the fees are required.

The Financial Plan is made up every five years to project the rising costs of buildings and grounds upkeep, the construction of new buildings such as the Vet-Tech Building and the costs of maintaining and improving the education of Joliet Jr. College students, according to Alan Hardersen, vice president for Student Services.

While many students understand that rising costs of maintaining the institution plays a significant role in tuition increases, many still want specifics. This year's rise in tuition and fees has specifics and much more than what meets the eye.



Student Alliance members discuss the tuition increase with JJC administrators

"The tuition increase is reasonable because we are putting more full-time faculty in the classroom, more full-time counselors during the summertime, and we want to maintain and improve our computer lab hours as well as improve the technology in the classroom," said Ryan.

If and when the Board of Trustees approves of the hiring of seven new full-time faculty, that will specifically account for \$350,000 of the increase.

As state funding of education has increased every year, the actual amount of these increases has actually decreased from previous years. For example, last year's increase in state funding of education was 5.6 percent, while this year's increase was only 2.04 percent.

Speculation in recent reports has involved reduction in Joliet Junior College revenue due to the value of the Brindwood and Morris nuclear power plants.

"The reduction in assessed

valuation due to the nuclear power plants has hampered the college's ability to collect taxes in the education fund," said Ryan.

The actual amount of tuition students pay before fees is \$44 per credit. The \$3 student-activity fee pays for all campus activities such as sports, karaoke, clubs and any other entertainment the college provides for the students.

The \$4 dollar technology fee pays for all the new computers.

See "Increase" on Page 3

Rock Run bike trail to run through JJC

by Michelle Tarrant

Scheduled for completion in the fall of 2000, JJC will have a new bike trail running its course through the campus.

The new path is a 4.1-mile lengthening of the Rock Run Corridor Trail. The extension will begin at Jefferson Street and Houbolt Road and will move south through JJC property, ending at the I&M Canal Access Preserve.

Since the college Board of Trustees gave its endorsement of the trail on Feb. 19, 1999, Biology Instructor Andy Neill has been very active with the expansion of the current path. He is also excited about its many benefits to students and faculty at the college.

"Parking concerns are a growing issue on campus," said Neill when asked about his hopes for the trail. "A concern of mine is additional parking means expanding out into the rare natural areas around here. A bike trail can increase parking options on campus as well as benefit your health and the earth." Using the path to walk, bike, or even roller-blade can result in good exercise and less car usage, which helps the environment and personal fitness.

Most JJC students live within five miles of the campus. With the trail being a new option for transportation, Neill hopes students take advantage of this opportunity.

For those not so easily per-

suaded, he has some incentive ideas. "Maybe if you ride your bike to campus, we can get some sort of partial tuition waiver of some kind."

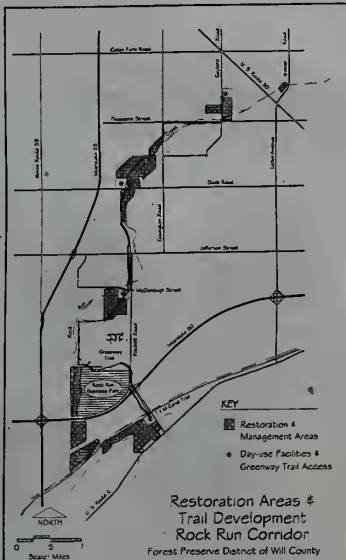
According to Neill, many people have been involved with the expansion of the trail since it was first proposed. The Grounds Advisory Committee is involved with the positioning of the trail as well as location. "A lot of people are involved in the work on this trail, which is important," Neill said. The administration has been well aware of the plans for the path as well.

The Will County Forest Preserve will be overseeing the installation, maintenance, and safety of the trail. John O'Lear is the Landscape Architect managing the trail for the WCFP. Neill has also been informed that there will be people on bikes patrolling the trail for safety.

In only a few months, students and faculty will be able to use the trail as a safe, reliable, and scenic route of transportation to and from JJC, instead of bicycling on main roads in the area.

When asked if he had ever biked to the campus, Neill had an interesting comment on the subject.

"I rode to JJC once on Houbolt," he said. "It was a bit scary. That road is NOT bicycle friendly."



The Rock Run Corridor Trail that will run through JJC is outlined above. Image courtesy of WCFP

Opinion

Y2K and the fight for equality still persists today

Picture this: a doctor walks into a reception area and says, "Nurse, next patient please."

What did you picture? Was it a male doctor and a female nurse? A female talking to a male? Two females? Two males? Were they Caucasian, Asian, African-American or Hispanic? No pronouns were used to indicate sex in the sociological experiment above, no adjectives to indicate race or ethnicity.

As I learned after two semesters of sociology classes, however, ideas of gender roles and cultural roles are so ingrained in our minds we all had a very clear image of who was speaking to whom. Astronaut, doctor, lawyer, firefighter—each word triggers an image, which is a product of the socialization we have been subjected to since birth. As infants we are draped in pink or blue, and depending on our sex we are "strong, smart and alert" or "sweet, cute and flirty."

I'm not trying to be your teacher; if you want to get into the why's and how's of all of this enroll yourself in a sociology course next semester. The reason I bring this up is that it suddenly occurred to me that it's the future!

We are three months into the year sci-fi authors had us believing was the year in which robots would roam the earth, aliens would enslave us and people would zoom around in hovercrafts. Aside from alien

Letters Make Words

by Natalie Mau



entertainment, scientists are hard at work making these fantasies a reality, those things which Ray Bradbury and George Orwell warned us about.

Yes, my friends, the spooky future is upon us and not much has changed. There is no indication of an African-American, Asian or Latino president. None of a female, homosexual or atheist head-of-country. No hoverboats, no UFOs. There is a mass movement toward vegetarianism, but alas, meat remains an all-American treat. Well...did I just skim over the fact that we have had nothing but old, rich, white male presidents? Yes, I thought I did! Our lack of sexual and cultural diversity in the Oval Office is a direct reflection of our lack of equality in society. Sure, we've changed a few laws, some people have even attempted to change their own actions; but until we change our minds, it's all in vain.

I'm not on a soapbox here, please understand. To quote the punk band Propagandhi, "I'm still as stupid as anyone but I know my

mistakes." I still catch myself using the word "gay" as a negative response as in, "Well that sounds gay, I'm not going to do that move." What makes me think it's OK to say things like that? I mean, I wouldn't appreciate it if suddenly "skinny" or "short" or "female" became slang terms for "unfavorable," nor would I be able to be anything but short, skinny and female. I realize how insulting my use of the word "gay" must be to the gay community and am doing my best to weed it out of my vocabulary.

As Ms. magazine Editor in Chief Marcia Ann Gillespie points out in the February/March issue, as much as we activists like to think we are not part of the problem, we don't always practice what we preach in it's entirety.

In her article "Too Close For Comfort," Gillespie says, "These days everybody has someone else to label as racist or homophobic, sexist, or anti-Semitic—the cops, fringe groups like the Aryans, or the militia movement, men, anti-choicers, the Christian fight,

gangs, the ignorant, the uneducated, the folks who live in trailer parks. It's never us, or our crowd."

She goes on to explain, (and this was the part that struck a chord in my sometimes-smug-self), that though we may not be the ones spouting derogatory remarks or committing hate crimes, we cannot assume we are combating inequality. Be it a clip in vocabulary or a comment by someone else you let pass to avoid an argument, you just might be—just might be—on the wrong end of the pointing finger.

I cannot expect others to become concerned with the oppression I face as a woman, and with the oppression of other people I concern myself with, until I have done my best to show compassion for and to liberate others. (Animals included. Are we surprised, in a society that has developed a taste for murdered flesh that we do not have equality amongst ourselves? We exploit living creatures, we torture them, we consume their dead bodies—and why? Because they cannot speak? They suffer in silence.) What I'm saying here, kids, is that it's the little things. Tackle things that are easily overcome, a flaw in your vocabulary, a stereotypical notion you know is unreasonable.

Don't be so insecure about the strength of your own convictions that you can't see the value in those of others.

Spring fashion includes dots, logos and fringe

POLKA DOTS, POLKA DOTS, lovely POLKA DOTS... all that comes to mind is a picture of Marilyn Monroe on my friend's wall, and the terrible 80s.

WHY, I ask, do we have to go through this fashion "revival" every 20 years? Don't get me wrong, I actually like the polka dots, I do, but then as I waded through the rest of the collections for the spring line up in my Capri pants from last spring, I cried. Designers are also bringing back the logo status, putting their names all over everything. I guess designers are thinking, "Well every thing is prosperous, our economy is booming, so let's show it all off."

I know many people are into



Vanity for Oxymorons

by Lorraine Guerrero

showing their little logos with everything, but a shirt with the logo plastered all over it 50 times is annoying. Lets pair our Prada shirt with the logo on it 7,000,000 times, with the new Lexus in the driveway. Whatever...

The best of the West is still here and cowboys and Indians (Native Americans) are still at it. Yes, maybe I am biased, being Native American, but I don't like

what the cowboys have to offer me. But I'm all over the Native American Fringe benefits!

And boy is there plenty of benefits.

Fringe on handbags, fringe on flatter pants, and fringe on shirts! Of course when I think of Native American clothing, I also think accessories!

This will put some of the many silver and turquoise laden accessories

that many of us have to goode use. Oh yeah, the cowboys... into embroidered cowboy hats are still around if you want to be in style, and even all that pony (cow) print, (... still say woman should stay away from anything merely resembling a cow).

Speaking of print...There's a lot of LOUD print coming from designer runways. I thought that the latter 90s with the 70s clothing revival was cool for some time, a little trippy, but some of the new prints are so bright, they're almost blinding. And for some odd reason,

the cover design for the movie "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas" comes to mind. That seems like it would make a cool screen print for a mini-tee or even a fun screen print for a clubbing shirt with fringe for any of the funky guys in your life.

Oh yeah, we are still paying homage to Buddha this spring with orange, and pairing it perfectly with purple. These two colors will be everywhere.

Well, if you're into the 80s, go out and get some logos to show off how well the economy is treating you.

If you don't feel like making your eyes bleed from the brightness of this spring's fashion line up, go with plain white t-shirts and comfortable worn-in denim jeans and you will be just as stylish, eye pleasing and classically cool.

Question of the Issue

"If you could choose a person to be elected president, who would you choose and why?"



"Ralph Nader, because he fights for the rights of the consumer and he isn't snowed by big business."

Ted Thompson, JJC Professor



"Jessie Jackson, because he was influenced by Martin Luther King and he would carry out his plans."

Charles Reed, Freshman



"Jennifer Lopez, because her butt is cute as hell."

Jason Yap, Freshman



"Elizabeth Dole, she has a lot of moral standards that are right on key and I think it's time we had a woman for president."

Christine Martis, Sophomore



"James McFarland, because he knows how to articulate the needs of the people and would not rest until he carried out the wishes of the people."

Eric Zabel, Sophomore

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JJC student exposes corruption in Illinois

by Stephanie Bushey

One of JJC's own, Tammy Raynor, a license examiner at the Illinois secretary of state's McCook facility, has been called the "central whistle-blower" in the federal Operation Safe Road investigation of corruption that took place in the secretary of state's office during the tenure of George Ryan, now Illinois' governor.

In an exclusive interview for the Feb. 16 Chicago Tribune story, "Truck bribe whistle-blower tells of 'emotional seaway,'" Raynor recounted how her failure to get state officials to act on her allega-

tions prompted her to go outside the office, eventually leading to the federal investigation.

The Blazer was informed that Raynor has since been directed by the Illinois State Attorney's office to not speak to the press, since the grand jury is still meeting on the case.

She and fellow McCook employee Tony Berlin started to document what she suspected was the selling of licenses to unqualified truckers in 1995.

According to the Tribune article, Raynor and Berlin took their suspicions about license selling to

the attorney representing the family of six children who were killed in a 1994 automobile accident in Wisconsin.

During a deposition in a civil lawsuit stemming from the crash, Raynor laid out her suspicions that the trucker involved may have fraudulently received his license. That charge, since sustained by federal authorities, sparked the federal investigation that has led to the conviction of 19 people on bribery-related charges.

The first sign Raynor said she saw indicating that something was wrong was the speed at which

truckers were being issued their new licenses. Large numbers of truckers, especially those with poor English skills, were being processed too quickly, she told the Tribune.

In a sworn statement in a civil suit, Raynor said one trucker complained to her he had paid a \$700 bribe but hadn't been given a license that would allow him to truck hazardous material, and further complained that the man next to him had paid only \$500.

In December 1997, after months of working with secretary of state investigators, she was

abruptly and without explanation transferred out of the McCook facility, according to the Tribune.

Raynor told the Tribune she telephoned her main contact in the secretary of state's inspector general office to ask for help, but the investigator hung up on her.

"I got the message," Raynor said. "I knew what it meant."

In January 1998, Raynor gave her sworn testimony in the case and two months later discussed her allegations with federal investigators. Today, Raynor remains a commercial license examiner at the McCook facility.

New fees range from \$3 to \$150 Increase

(From Page 1)

such as those in the new technology center located in the library, and software such as the new Blackboard software program that has enabled JJC to have online courses.

The activity fee and the technology fee will be staying the same for the upcoming year.

Some course fees, however, will see an increase. The fees for math classes will be increasing from \$3 to \$6 to cover the cost of

the software program the school purchased that will provide students with tutoring.

Culinary Arts students will see an increase in fees from \$50 to \$100, and one of the largest fees will be the first-time fee of \$150 for students taking the first-time offered, self-instructed language classes which include classes such as Conversational Japanese. The fee will cover the cost of the tutor, textbooks and audio-tapes.

The fees and tuition stated will only be applicable for the 2000-2001 school year, if approved. Since they are projected to rise, students taking a course load of about 15 credits per semester after next year's increase, or the 2001-2002 increase, will be looking forward to \$60 per semester or \$120 year increases; 2002-2003 will be looking forward to an increase of \$90 per year or \$180 per year and so on.

This course only holds true if tuition increases are held down to \$2-\$3 dollar increases per credit hour.

Administrators did speak with the Student Alliance to discuss these issues and explained to them the reasons for the need to increase tuition.

"For what the college would like to do with the tuition increase, I think it is a good idea to increase with the current information," said Christopher Boyk, president of JJC Junior College Student Alliance.

This tuition increase of \$2 per credit hour will take effect in summer session one.

Native American Club Fourth annual Pow Wow to be held on March 11

by Craig S. Harju Jr.

Song, dance, food, and vendors are just a couple of the things that you can experience at the Fourth Annual JJC Junior College Woodland Reunion Traditional Pow Wow.

On Saturday, March 11, the Office of Student Services and Activities, and the Native American Club with cooperation from the American Indian Center of Chicago, will have their fourth annual Pow Wow at JJC.

"This is the fourth Pow Wow sponsored by JJC. We've had Pow Wows here since 1990, but they've been sponsored by other groups," said Fred Harris, sponsor of the Native American Club.

The doors will open at noon and will go until 9 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults; \$2 for seniors, students, and children, and children under 6 will be admitted for free.

"Tribes from all over the U.S. will be here," said Harris. A lot of the Tribes come from the

Woodland, the Midwest, and the Northeast. Some of the tribes, or nations as they are some times referred to, that will be attending will be the Ojibwa, Ho-Chunk, the Menominee, the Potawatomi, the Mesquaki, and the Blackfeet, to name just a few.

Some of the people attending come from Chicago, some come from the Midwest, and some will be traveling a great distance just to come to this event, according to Harris.

Craft vendors will be selling items all along the concourse, and authentic Native American food will be prepared in the cafeteria for people to try.

There will also be two Grand Entries, which is when the dancers from the different tribes enter the Pow Wow. The first will be at 1 p.m. and the second at 6 p.m. The dancing of the different tribes will be held in the gym.

"All are invited," said Harris. "It's good for the kids," he added.

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Women's History month honored in March

by Amy Lakeberg

The Women's College is sponsoring Women's History Month this March at JJC. A number of activities are scheduled to celebrate women "due to past injustices and cultural indifference," said the co-director of the College, Dr. Roya Falahi.

The Women's College is in its third year and is funded by the Illinois State Board of Education and partially by JJC. The co-director of the college is Suzanne

Priga and the support staff director is Lynn Orsini.

The activities sponsored by the College include two speeches and a display on domestic violence.

The first speech will be a presentation by Falahi on marriage, gender and health on Thursday, March 3, at noon. On March 24 at noon, Dr. Kathryn Ward will give the second speech on globalization and its impact on women in the theater. Ward is a professor of sociology at Southern Illinois University

in Carbondale.

Falahi said she is hesitant to use just one month for women's achievements because women should be discussed throughout the year.

"The major mission of the Women's College is to promote integration of gender equity into all aspects of the educational process. This is important to the centrality of gender as a principle organizing element in social structures and institutions," Falahi added.

The College also helps men and women pursue their non-traditional careers, she said.

The Women's College is also sponsoring The Clothes Line Project in accordance with the Guardian Angel Home and the Social and Behavioral Science Department during the second half of March, after spring break. The Guardian Angel Home, located in Joliet, provides support services to battered women and victims of sexual assault.

T-shirts made by victims of domestic violence, incest, sexual abuse and rape will be on display.

"One T-shirt was made by a boy who had seen his mother abused by his father," Falahi said.

Falahi added that she thinks gender has an impact on all our lives as women and men. She also said that the purpose of having a women's college is not to victimize men, but to empower women.

Fine Arts

JJC to present musical 'Damn Yankees'



by Eric Yankee

The JJC Fine Arts Department will present the heart warming musical fantasy "Damn Yankees" on March 2-4 at 8 p.m. and March 5 at 2:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Theater on the main campus.

George Abbott, Douglas Wallop, Richard Adler and Jerry Ross created "Damn Yankees." It is the story of a middle-aged baseball fan who makes a pact with the Devil (known throughout the play as Mr. Applegate) for a chance to lead his favorite team full of loveable losers, the Washington Senators, to a pennant victory against "those damn New York Yankees."

JJC Foundation names four new members

The Joliet Junior College Foundation Board of Directors recently welcomed four new members.

The new Board members are: Terry D. Thomason of Palos Park, General Manager of ITW/Jemco in Minooka; Daniel Bujas of Willow Springs, Workforce Planning Manager at United Parcel Service in Hodgkins; Michael J. Finnegan of Momence, Regional Administrator (economic development) at Com Ed in University Park; and Wayne G. Klasing of New Lenox, President/CEO for Klasing Industries, Inc. in Joliet. Bujas' term ends Dec. 31, 2001. The terms of Thomason, Finnegan and Klasing end Dec. 31, 2002.

Also chosen were new Foundation officers for 2000: William T. Kaplan, Joliet, President; Dr. August Martinucci, Joliet, President-Elect; Robert Wysocki, Naperville, Vice President; and Robert Biedron, Naperville, Treasurer.

Zachary Bloomfield directs "Damn Yankees" with musical direction by Sue Malmberg and dance choreography by Megan Rousky. Nicki Blowers is the designer/technical director. The cast includes: Eric Yankee of Braidwood; Stacy Bowie, Jason Mitchell, William Smith and David O'Brien of Bolingbrook; Rob Culp of Channahon; Courtney Steinbach and Katie Trotter of Coal City; Rosalind Stone of Downers Grove; Sally Richards of Frankfort; David Choumard, Amanda DeCamp, Eugene McDonald of Joliet; Jennifer Bludgen; Nick Strahanowski, Kristine Umikis and Tom Drugas of Lockport;

Stephanie Jourdan and Lara Wierzbicki of Mokena; George Miller of Morris; Mark Frost, Jennifer Hughes, Roxanne Munch and Stacy Stafko of Plainfield; Amanda Higgins of Seneca; and Larry Sprengel and Megan Rousky of Shorewood.

Tickets are \$5 for the general public and \$3 for senior citizens. Discounts are available to students, children under 12 and JJC faculty and staff. Audience members may bring non-perishable food items to the production, where they may be exchanged for items at the concession table.

For tickets call Nicki Blowers at (815) 280-2200.

College fair aimed at adult returning students

by Amy Lakeberg

The Adult Student College Fair will be held on Tuesday, March 28, at the main campus A-T concourse, from 5:30-8 p.m. Although the fair is primarily for adult returnees, any college student is welcome to attend.

"The college fair is for a combination of both the adult returnees and other students," said Gina Hoyt, General Student Development secretary. According to Linda Aguilar, director of General Student Development, representatives from area colleges and universities will be there to help the students with any questions. Also, financial aid information will be available.

Tours of JJC's Vocational Programs will be offered and students may bring copies of their transcripts for unofficial review. Aguilar said. Entertainment for the children will be provided by JJC's Youth College.

There will also be door prizes drawn every half-hour. Aguilar said. The lists of colleges that plan to attend include Benedictine University, Chicago State University, College of DuPage, Columbia College, DeVry Institute of Technology, Elmhurst College, Governor's State University, Lewis University, Moraine Valley Community College, National Lewis University, North Central College, Northeastern Illinois University, Olivet Nazarene University, Robert Morris College, St. Xavier College, South Suburban College, Trinity Christian College, University of Francis, Triton College and Southern Illinois University.

The Institute of Economic Technology and Division of Adult and Family Services from the City Center will also attend. For additional information on the Adult Student College Fair, call (815) 280-2493.

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Movie Review

'American Beauty' a must-see Oscar nominee

by Matt Furlane

The Cold War is over, Y2K passed harmlessly, the economy is booming, shopping malls are filled and soon everyone will be driving an SUV and cashing in their stocks.

What more could anyone want?

"American Beauty," directed by Hollywood newcomer Sam Mendes, has already garnered three Golden Globe awards (Best Picture, Best Director and Best Screenplay) and has been nominated for eight Academy Awards (Best Picture, Actor, Actress, Cinematography, Screenplay, Director, Score and Editing). Originally released last September, it was re-released this February. On March 26 the twisted comedy/drama could walk away with at least six Oscars for its blisteringly accurate portrait of a modern suburban family as they suffer

the consequences of chasing the utopian idea of fulfillment through success.

At the center of the existential dilemma is the unhappy and sexually frustrated Lester Burnham, played by Kevin Spacey ("L.A. Confidential," "Seven," "The Negotiator"). Lester is the first to crack under the nihilistic pressure as he faces the possible loss of his job, the coldness of his success-driven wife Carolyn, played by Annette Bening ("The Silence of the Lambs," "The American President," "Mars Attacks"), and the deteriorating relationship with his daughter, Jane, played by Thora Birch.

Like many mid-life crisis baby boomers, Lester tries to break free by running, literally and figuratively. He repeatedly fantasizes about his daughter's cheerleader friend Angela while neglecting his relationship with his wife. In one scene

Lester imagines Angela nude on the ceiling of his bedroom with rose petals dropping like snow. Later, to the disgust of Jane, he begins to jog and lift weights in order to impress Angela.

In addition to Angela, Lester tries to escape further with drugs that he gets from his daughter's boyfriend, Ricky, played by Wes Bentley. After watching Ricky quit his job as a waiter, Lester decides to quit his job and applies at a fast food restaurant for a position with the least amount of responsibility. In a humorous scene we watch him sitting for an interview with the store manager defending his qualifications and resume.

The turmoil revolving directly around Lester is only part of "American Beauty." The film explores other ideas like stern fathers, stressed out working moms, and what it means to be

'American Beauty'
explores other ideas like
stern fathers, stressed out
working moms, and what it
means to be ordinary.

ordinary.

Ricky's father is wired so tight that he actually believes the only hope for the world is discipline and law and he punishes Ricky severely for threatening the order. The scenes portraying this are the most gripping as you see an angry father afraid and unable to cope with the reality that his son is not going to turn out the way he wants.

Ironically, Ricky, who suffers the most, is the one character who truly understands the beauty that surrounds everyone. In a touching scene with Jane, they watch one of his home videos of a plastic bag blowing in the wind and he explains to her the beauty of it. Ricky appreciates real beauty, something neither his parents nor Jane's can understand because they are consumed with themselves and the material world.

Annette Bening is brilliant as Carolyn, the lust-maintained image of success mother, who is

dismayed at her husband's behavior and devastated when she finds out that Jane isn't happy with all the material goods that she has bought her. In a scene played out a thousand times in the real world, Carolyn slaps Jane for being ungrateful. After all, how could she dare expect real love from her parents? The "friendship" between Jane and Angela revolves around Angela's beauty and made up sexual exploits. Jane struggles with feeling ordinary and is overly sensitive about her breast size. Ricky, who Angela spitefully calls "psycho boy," later reveals who is really "ordinary."

Cutting, hilarious and sad, "American Beauty" is a dialogue and character-driven film that opens the door wide into the world of suburban self-centered lifestyles, angst and escape. It challenges you to think through your own ideas about the good life, materialism and beauty. In the end you might laugh or cry. A must-see, "American Beauty" was written by Alan Ball and produced by Dan Jinks and Mena Suvari. It received an R rating for language, strong sexuality and violence and has a running time of two hours.

Future to benefit from prepaid tuition

by Natalie Mau

According to College Illinois' Prepaid Tuition Program, tuition costs have been rising three times faster than the average household income since 1980.

If these trends continue, tuition for a newborn today could climb to over \$50,000 by the time that child enrolls in college. American families accumulated more college debt during the first five years of the 1990s than in the previous three decades combined, according to Rea S. Hederman, author of "Who Would Benefit from Prepaid College Tuition Plans?" In response to these rising costs, Congress is now allowing parents to defer federal income tax on all interest earned until their child enrolls in college.

Congress intends for the \$30 billion tax-cut package to expand

to cover private colleges and universities as well as state-sponsored schools. Some members of Congress are pushing to make interest earned on tuition savings and prepaid plans tax-free.

Experts predict about 30 million children in families with incomes above 125 percent of the poverty level could benefit. According to "Taxing matters: College Aid, Tax Policy and Equal Opportunity," however, the proposed policies would mainly benefit students from middle- and upper-income families. The Congressional Budget Office estimates families in the 20 percent tax bracket would save \$2,000 in taxes, those in the 15 percent bracket would only save \$150, but the plan would mostly benefit students who already plan on attending college and those who are currently

enrolled in college.

Supporters argue, however, that working-class families would benefit from the plan, and point out that families with annual incomes less than \$35,000 purchased 62 percent of the prepaid contracts sold in Pennsylvania in 1996. People in Illinois, according to College Illinois, purchased nearly 170 million College Illinois prepaid college plans last year. Prepaid plans offer a "what you buy is what you get" guarantee, with tuition prices for today "locked in" for tomorrow.

With tuition costs currently at a temporary low, such plans offer peace of mind and financial security to perhaps otherwise ill-prepared parents. More information about prepaid college plans can be found at the College Illinois website, www.collegeillinois.com.

Horoscopes

by Amy Lakeberg

Pisces (Feb. 19 to March 20)

This month your psychic ability comes into play with your love life. The person you think you will work well with is indeed the right person. Don't be afraid to see things how they really are.

Aries (March 21 to April 20)

Take some time off from continual worries that have been bothering you in school and work during Spring break. Make some time for yourself by vegging out on the couch.

Taurus (April 21 to May 20)

Don't be surprised if you see little green men following you around: you are awful lucky this month. Don't worry that people will think you're crazy: tell them it's just the spirit of the Irish.

Gemini (May 21 to June 21)

Your life seems to be crumbling around you, but don't let it get you down. The changes are good for you. It is time to move on.

Cancer (June 22 to July 21)

Stop worrying about what the other person is going to think, it's not really that bad. Take the initiative and you will succeed.

Leo (July 23 to Aug. 22)

Your persistence will soon pay off when you complete what you have been wanting to accomplish for months. It will seem like a feat that is almost too good, but it is what you've been waiting for.

Virgo (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)

Trying to change something in your life that is unchangeable is not worth it. Don't believe what your friends tell you this month, you're not that much of a perfectionist as others think you are. Your actions may deceive you.

Libra (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)

This month will bring about new changes for you, especially in your work life. Just as you think you are giving up part of the past so you can move on, old flames will be rekindled.

Scorpio (Oct. 22 to Nov. 21)

Don't worry too much about what your friend is thinking. Give it a little time and he or she will open up to you eventually. Don't put things into place yet. There might be a few surprises ahead this month.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23 to Dec. 21)

The hardships that you have encountered last month will soon fade away and you will begin a new awakening this month. This phase will be one of the best ones you have had in a long time.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)

Let others feel important in your life. Don't treat them as lower than you, treat them as equals. Take off a little pressure in your life and bring a smile to your face! Your achievements aren't the only things that are important about you.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)

Things have really backfired on you. So the jealous act isn't going to work, huh? Oh well, maybe you should try something else. You think you can be individualistic and survive by yourself, but your heart is really set on being with a certain someone swallow down the pride and walk on.

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Features

CD Reviews

Jay-Z on top, DMX falls short, the artist still pop prince

by Matt Packard

Jay-Z
"Vol. 3... Life and Times of S. Carter"
 Rating: ****

Well, pop music enthusiasts, it's that time of year again to reload your bank account while the industry catches its breath. The final big release of the last year's was one of the biggest in Jay-Z's "Vol. 3... Life and Times of S. Carter."

"Jigga" displayed the bravado that makes him such a success-farmer by keeping his album to himself until after Christmas, possibly costing him sales of thousands of units.

Nevertheless, Jay-Z high-stepped into the No. 1 slot and "Volume 3" deserved to be there. The hooks are not as automatic as those on "Volume 2": Still, "It's Her" and "S. Carter" will likely have B96 kids bouncing in their mother's mini vans.

"Dope Man" is a disturbing and clever account of a trial. It is a four-minute analogy for the hip-hop industry featuring Serena

Alcalui's recital of the trial's details unfolded. Spit over a "dark alley" musical backdrop, this is one of Jay-Z's finest moments. Plagued only by feature acts that don't deserve to sample Jay-Z, "Vol. 3" is another successful chapter for S. Carter.

Def Jammie DMX
"... And Then There Was X"
 Rating: ***

The same might not be said for fellow Def Jammie DMX and his latest collection, "... And Then There Was X." This is the nicest packaging we've seen from the rugged rapper, but the actual disc is his weakest. DMX brings the familiar "Nas-level" lyrics about the state of the ghetto and living against the odds. The flows are thoughtful and loaded with passion, but we've heard the same ideas from him three times now.

The only difference this time is that the melodies are often recycled from his previous work and the hooks are often annoying and

cheesy.

DMX's greatest contribution to hip-hop this year might be tossing a raft to (the) LOX. The trio jumped off the Titanic that was Bad Boy Records, dropped the "tite" in their name, and became Ruff Ryders. They are still some of the most talented and well-respected emcees from the underground up.

There is such an engorgement of sharp, clever lines in their Ruff Ryders debut, "We Are the Streets" (****), that I cannot mention any of them without feeling like I'm neglecting innumerable others.

Their 14 tracks are nowhere near as catchy as those on their "Money, Power, and Respect" LP, nor are the beats as much fun. However, the flows and concepts are still so tight that a catchy hook on a LOX track can seem like a waste of valuable time.

T.A.F.K.A. Prince
"Rave Un2 The Joy Fantastic"
 Rating: ****1/2

I'm going back several months

for the last review, but to be truthful, I feel like the horrible asp for not "raving" about it earlier. T.A.F.K.A. Prince has outdone just about everyone with or without a guitar on "Rave Un2 The Joy Fantastic."

It's almost annoying that the record is "produced by Prince" and "composed, performed, and arranged by (the symbol)." Huh?

Regardless, His Highness has returned to brilliance with his standard mix of funk monsters, dance classics and rock and roll mastery. As an added bonus, he has enlisted Chuck D., Ani DeFranco, Sheryl Crow, Eve, Gwen Stefani and Maceo Parker to help him out this

time around.

It was rare in 1999 (and probably will be in 2000) to find such soothing rhythms, irresistible flavor and satisfying rock sewn together in one album.

"Rave ..." is also blessed with the "touch" that few active and/or younger artists have found. He addresses this in "Undisputed," singing, "What's this claim-out-tawhat? ... my dear, I am the touch."

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Cyber CD shopping saves money

by Natalie Mau

These days it seems like there are fewer and fewer reasons to leave the house. The availability of compact discs for sale online is quite possibly one more reason, provided dealers have what you want at a reasonable price and minimal shipping charges.

Don't just blindly jump into the sea of CD sellers, though, take a look at some comparisons. The CDs shipped for sale in this comparison are Bad Religion—"Against the Grain," Hatebreed—"Satisfaction is the Death of Desire," Hole—"Pretty On the Inside," Minor Threat—"Discography," Danzig—"Lucifuge" and Social Distortion—"Somewhere Between Heaven and Hell." Keep in mind that the alternative to online CD shopping is crowded, overpriced malls and obscure indie shops in big cities.

Amazon.com, which sells pretty much anything and every-

thing, has the highest prices across the board. The Bad Religion album, goes for \$14.22. Hatebreed for \$16.99, the Hole CD is not available. Minor Threat costs \$13.27 and the Danzig and Social Distortion CDs are each \$11.49.

Amazon.com offers many albums on cassette and vinyl, and has a convenient feature by which the shopper can see what other CDs people with similar tastes have purchased. There is a \$2 shipping fee, which increases \$0.99 per item. Orders are shipped in 3-7 business days.

CDnow.com's shipping rate is \$0.99 higher than Amazon's, but does not increase with order size beyond \$4.97. The CD prices are slightly lower, too. Bad Religion, Hatebreed and Hole all go for \$12.99. Minor Threat is \$12.99, and Danzig and Social Distortion are each \$11.49. CDnow's "album advisor" feature is similar to that of

Amazon; customers may see what other customers with similar taste are buying. Orders may take up to two weeks to reach their destination.

ABCds.com has a strict return policy; unless there is a total melt-down in your stereo, you are not getting your money back. The prices, however, are fair. The Bad Religion album goes for \$11.88, as does the Hatebreed CD. Hole costs \$13.58, and Minor Threat is \$11.88. Danzig and Social Distortion are each \$10.18. The first four CDs ordered are \$1 each to ship; any additional CDs are \$0.50 each. There is a \$0.95 handling fee.

CDworld.com is slightly less expensive than ABCds.com, offering Bad Religion, Hatebreed and Hole each for \$11.57. Minor Threat is \$11.07 and Danzig and Social Distortion for only \$9.47. Shipping rates vary depending on service,

but on average are comparable to the rest of the merchants.

Cheap-CDs.com—the name says it all. This site's prices are great: Bad Religion for \$9.70, Hatebreed and Hole for \$10.85 each, Minor Threat for \$8.70 and Danzig and Social Distortion for \$8.29 each. Shipping costs are a little confusing, but simplified, it's \$1.24 for the first item, \$2.35 for the second and three or more are a flat \$3.00. Cheap-CDs.com has same-day shipping.

If you're feeling charitable, check out MusicAid.org. Working through CDnow and CDworld, this site directs up to 20 percent of the purchase price of a CD to charities that feed starving children.

The only place you're going to find a better deal than Cheap-CDs.com is a dirt-cheap CD store in the city or a used store. As always, comparative shopping is often worth the trouble.

Don't be afraid...

by Ryan Ruffatti

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Sports

Men's Basketball

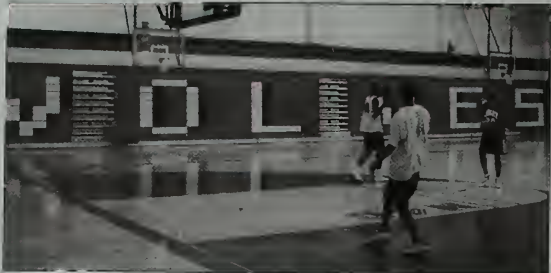
Smith, Standeford escort Wolves to 20 wins

by Nikki Sherdan

The Joliet Junior College Men's Basketball Team's season is winding down. The men recently finished their regular season games with a 20-10 record, including a 67-64 win over Chicago's St. Xavier Junior Varsity on Feb. 24.

Freshman Dustin Smith still guides the team, averaging 14.3 points per game and 9.3 assists per game. Smith also leads with steals with an average of 1.8 per game. Jason Standeford also provides 13.3 points and 3.5 assists per game.

Jelani Clark pulls down an average of 8.2 rebounds per game, which leads the team. Markus Ford is the team's second-leading



JJC basketball players prepare for an upcoming game at a recent practice.

photos taken by Lorraine Guerrero

rebounder, pulling 5.9 rebounds per game.

The Wolves will begin playing in the Region IV Division III Semi-final Tournament against Harvard, Ky., on Friday, March 3, at the College of DuPage. The game will start at 3 p.m.

If JJC wins, the Wolves will advance to the tournament championship. The championship game will also be played at College of DuPage on Saturday, March 4, at 7 p.m.

If the Wolves take the championship, they will then advance to the NCAA Division III National Tournament, which takes place over spring break, March 9-11, in Delhi, N.Y.

Women's Basketball

Lady Wolves close regular season with 15-14 mark

by Nikki Sherdan

Joliet Junior College's Women's Basketball Team finished its regular season on Tuesday, Feb. 22, with a 60-49 loss to Oakton Community College. The loss dropped the Lady Wolves record to 15-14.

Mary McNair scored 18 points in the final game, giving her 866 total points for her JJC career. She finished the season as the team's leading scorer with 17.9 points per game. McNair also finished with 5.7 rebounds and 3.6 assists per game. Yolanda Pearson scored 13 points Tuesday and grabbed 9 rebounds, finishing the season with 9.2 points and 8.3 rebounds per game.

Felicia Randle added 9 points and 11 rebounds on Tuesday,

bringing her season averages to 14.5 points and 13.3 rebounds. Randle's career total of 660 rebounds at JJC puts her second on the school's all-time rebounding list. Lisa Kula, who played from 1996-98, is the all-time leader with 694 career rebounds.

The Lady Wolves initiate play in the Region IV Division III Tournament on Friday, March 3, against Harper College. The game begins at 1 p.m. at College of DuPage, the site of the tournament. College of DuPage is located in Glen Ellyn, Ill.

If JJC wins, the team will then compete in the tournament championship on Saturday, March 4, at 5 p.m. The National Tournament will be held in Corning, N.Y., March 9-11.

Lady Wolves' Playoff Preview

First Opponent: Harper College in Region IV Division III Semifinal Tournament.

When: Friday, March 3 at 1 p.m.

Where: College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, Ill.

With a victory: The Lady Wolves would move on to the championship game on Saturday, March 5 at COD at 5 p.m.

Regular Season Record: 15-14 (4-2 in N4C)

Season Recap: Despite dropping their first five contests of the season, the Lady Wolves eventually rebounded to a 10-7 record by Jan. 4. From there, JJC went on to win five of their next 10 games, including a 69-56 win over Harper College.

The win also lifted JJC's conference record to 4-2. But, in their final two games of the regular season, the Lady Wolves hit a bump with losses to Black Hawk College and Oakton Community College, who improved to just 4-21 overall with the win.

Countdown: Sophomore Felicia Randle needs just 35 rebounds more to become JJC's all-time leading rebounder.



Just Talkin' Sports

by Adam Satorius

Time to get crazy, March Madness is here

The NCAA Tournament is quickly headed our way. Traditional powers such as Duke, Cincinnati and Arizona are already guaranteed spots, while the other yearly powerhouses like North Carolina, UCLA and defending champion are on the bubble and will have to sweat out the selection process.

The field this season is fairly even, at least more even than in past seasons. But like last year, when Duke was the heavy favorite and lost to Connecticut in the finals, the so-called obvious choice may not turn out to be the best team.

Of course, with the playing field so level, expect some fantastic games.

The tournament brackets do not come out until mid-march, but, should the following teams be placed in separate brackets, here are my picks for the Final Four: Duke, Michigan State, Temple and St. John's. Duke and Michigan State seem like solid picks, and two unexpected teams usually make it to the Final Four every year, so Temple and St. John's it is.

As for local schools with a shot of getting into the field of 64, look for Illinois and Purdue of the Big Ten, and DePaul of Conference USA to qualify. DePaul is

so happy with Coach Pat Kennedy's leadership that the university extended his contract through the 2007 season.

Southern Illinois will have a chance to make the tournament but will need to win the Missouri Valley Tournament to do so. The other "maybes" are Northern Illinois and Notre Dame, but like SIU, they too will have to win their conference tournaments to get in.

I like Illinois' chances of possibly reaching the Elite Eight, and Purdue and DePaul will make some noise, too. I like both of them as possible Sweet Sixteen teams.

As for the National Championship, my heart says Duke, the team I have followed since the days of Bobby Hurley and Christian Laettner, but my head says to go with Michigan State. The Spartans' senior-dominated team seems to be doing what they need to do to get a good seed and make their run.

They were in the Final Four a year ago, losing a heartbreaker to Duke in the semifinals. I believe they will settle for nothing less than a National Championship.

Wolves' Playoff Preview

First Opponent: Harvard, Ky. in Region IV Division III Semifinal Tournament.

When: Friday, March 3 at 1 p.m.

Where: College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn, Ill.

With a victory: JJC will advance to the championship game on Saturday, March 4 at COD. Tipoff is slated at 7 p.m.

Regular Season Record: 20-10 (4-4 in N4C)

Season Recap: The Wolves jumped out to an early 4-1 record before dipping to 7-6 after a 111-102 loss to Oakton on Dec. 18. But JJC quickly caught fire as they won eight of their next nine games, and were ranked 12th among the nation's Division III schools. In the final stretch, the Wolves posted a 5-3 mark.

With a 67-62 non-conference victory over Saint Xavier University JV in their final regular season game, the Wolves garnered their first 20-win season since JJC's 1994-95 squad went 28-4. JJC also owned a 14-2 mark at Wills Gymnasium this season.

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Men's Basketball

Friday, March 3
Region IV Division III Tournament,
First Round

Saturday, March 4
Region IV Division III Tournament,
Second Round

March 9-11
National Tournament

Women's Basketball

Friday, March 3
Region IV Division III Tournament,
First Round

Saturday, March 4
Region IV Division III Tournament,
Second Round

March 9-11
National Tournament

Baseball

March 4-11
Spring Trip
at Nashville, TN

Tuesday, March 14
Louisville College
First Home Game - 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 15
Washington CC - Home

Softball

March 5-11
Spring Trip
at Pensacola, FL

Wednesday, March 15
Louisville University - Away

Sunday, March 19
Kishwaukee
College - Away

Men's Tennis

March 4-11
Spring Trip
at Hilton Head Is., S.C.

Thursday, March 16
Elgin C.C. - Away

Friday, March 31
College at
Lake County - Home

Inside

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JJC to renovate practice field into stadium

Page 7

New faculty positions created, 17 retire

by Stephanie Busbey

A large number of full-time faculty members are retiring this year, with 15 teachers, a dean of counseling and a counselor retiring. The administration is currently in the process of interviewing for these positions, as well as eight new faculty positions recently tentatively approved by the Board of Trustees, pending the adoption of the 2000-2001 budget.

"The college is losing a tremendous number of talented people," said J.D. Ross, JJC president.

Ross notes that there are a large number of open positions all over Illinois, so there is competition for potential employees. Ross indicated he expects more retire-

ments in Illinois over the next couple of years because many of the teachers who started when the community college system was created are reaching retirement age. Most community colleges started in 1967 with the Illinois Community College Act, which created districts for the colleges.

Currently the full-time faculty to full-time student ratio is below the national standard, which is 20 students per faculty member, according to Dr. Denis G. Wright, vice president of academic affairs. However, Wright pointed out that JJC is above the average in the Chicago area with the number of classes taught by full-time faculty.

"What's amazing to me is that

we're above the average in the Chicago area with the number of classes taught by full-time faculty, but that's not good enough for us," Wright said. "We want to be better than that because we value the contribution of full-time faculty."

The administration hopes the increase of full-time faculty will decrease the full-time faculty to full-time student ratio.

Currently, 57 percent of classes at JJC are taught by full-time faculty, according to Wright. The additional eight new positions should bring that percentage up to slightly over 60 in the fall, with a moderate increase of the student population, according to Wright. Wright says he would actually like

to see 67 percent of classes taught by full-time faculty.

Over the past four or five years, there has been an increase in student population without an increase of full-time faculty, according to Wright.

"As an institution, we have dealt with the increase with student population with adding adjunct faculty at a greater rate than full-time faculty," said Wright.

The new faculty positions by department include two for Computer Information and Office Systems, two for English, one in Mathematics, one in Vet Technology, one in Psychology, and one in Manufacturing Production.

Negotiations for new deal underway

by Stephanie Busbey

Negotiations for the new teachers' contract are currently under way, and both spokesmen for faculty and administration are optimistic.

The current three-year-old contract runs out the last day of summer sessions.

Details regarding what is being negotiated in the new contract could not be discussed as part of a confidentiality code negotiating committee members agreed to.

"We're in a positive process and we'll continue to move forward," said Tom Ryan, vice president of business services, spokesman for administration in negotiations.

Dr. Michael Lee, spokesman for and president of the Union Executive Council, agreed.

"We've been optimistic all the way through, and we're still

See "Teachers" on Page 3

Closetline Project

JJC celebrates Women's History



Survivors of gender-based violence made these t-shirts to symbolize their personal struggles with incest, sexual assault, and domestic violence. See Women's History Month events in News Briefs, page 4

photo taken by Shane Lindsay

Student tuition increase approved by Board

by Lorraine Guerrero

The tuition increase was approved by the Joliet Junior College Board of Trustees four to three at the meeting March 8.

The tuition will be increasing by two dollars per credit hour for the 2000-2001 school year. So if you're a student taking 15 credit hours you will be paying \$30 extra in tuition alone per semester, not including any of the new or increasing fees.

In a survey conducted by the JJC Student Alliance, a total of 1,167 or 12.9 percent of the student body were asked if they supported the two dollar per credit hour tuition increase. According to the survey 797 students, or 58 percent voted yes; 362, or 41 percent voted no, while less than one percent were undecided.

Forty-four students who took the survey commented on the tuition increase. Twenty-six of these students had voted no, while only 16 who voted yes had comments.

Various comments, as well as suggestions, made by those voting yes were:

"Yes, but let's freeze it for a few years too!"

"As long as there would be any significant increase in the quality of education system at JJC!"

"This is a very small percent increase to pay for improving services, provided it is used for improved services and not bureaucracy."

Various comments and suggestions made by those voting no were:

"Tuition is raised every year."

"Don't raise it, the quality of the services are good at JJC."

"I would support this increase after seeing a budget and proposal on exactly what actions JJC will take with the additional income."

"Have you seen the price of gas?"

"I think we pay enough and with all the money the class costs they should be able to have high quality classes, teachers, and pro-

grams."

President of Student Alliance Christopher Boyk commented in the March first issue of the Blazer that he was for the tuition increase, based on the information he had at the time. Since this time he has changed his mind and is now opposed to the increase.

"We have a high quality of education here (at JJC) as it stands now," said Boyk.

"Prices are going up across the board, yet wages are not increasing to meet the rising costs of living, not to mention the costs of rising tuition."

According to the administration, the revenue from the tuition increase is going to be allocated toward maintaining an adequate number of full-time faculty; increasing support in Financial Aid and counseling services; and maintaining and advancing technology. These items are among what they feel are a list of priorities. However, the money is not earmarked for a specific place.

The survey did not mention anything about the increasing course fees. These fee increases included a \$3 increase for math classes to cover the cost of the software program the school purchased that will provide students with tutoring.

Culinary arts fees increased from \$50 to \$100, and the largest fee increase will be the first-time fee of \$150 for students taking the first-time offered, self-instructed language classes which include classes such as, conversational Japanese.

The fee will cover the cost of the tutor, textbooks, and audio tapes. The new fees will only affect students who are taking the specific subject that the fees are put in place for.

Tuition will probably continue to rise each year by a couple of dollars, according to the projections made in the Joliet Junior College Financial Plan prepared by Tom Ryan, vice president of Business Services.

Opinion

Activists aren't just tree huggers and kamikaze monks

For all the stupid things people pick up from TV and movies there are very few important ideas implanted in our heads. We might leave the theater sporting tag lines or go to school quoting Homer and Bart, but seldom do we come away with anything of value.

This is not to say that there are no important lessons to be learned from these media, because it's quite the opposite. It's just that people prefer the catch phrases to the deeper meaning.

If everyone who knows the first rule of "Fight Club" also understood the concept behind the fictional gathering, there would be fewer T-shirt sales and more revolutions. True, it was only a movie, but if we found the club rules important enough to memorize then we should also seek out the social significance of it all.

According to the characters, the "Fight Club" developed because we are all full of

LettersMakeWords

by Natalie Mau



crap. We mean well, but we hurt, abuse, kill and lie. Activism has become a dirty word, synonymous with tree huggers and kamikaze monks. To avoid this image, those who still care practice passive activism: religion, vegetarianism, feminism, straight edge, environmentalism, and so on.

These are all wonderful things to be a part of, take it from a straight edge vegetarian feminist, and they can all be active or passive. It's important, however, that those who wear the labels know what they stand for.

Movies like "Fight Club" show what a

huge difference non-passive activism can make—but the idea seems to be lost on American audiences.

Recently, a new activist group of sorts has been running ads on TV, they're called Truth. Set on exposing the tobacco industry, this youth-powered organization has a website and a full-scale ad campaign against tobacco. Their site, www.thetruth.com, contains documents the tobacco fat cats don't want you to see, as well as facts about smoking everyone needs to know.

The campaign inspired me to start a

group myself, it's called Choose Your Own Path. We're a group of teens and young adults, all drug free, who live weird and wild lives. Our website, <http://go.to/DrugFree>, contains our profiles, pictures of us at work and play and of our tattoos, colored hair, bands and many piercings.

We are in the very early stages of development right now, but our intent is to visit schools and show kids that you can still have lots of fun without drugs and alcohol. Anyone interested in joining us can sign up on our web page. Alcohol and tobacco companies have image consultants and ad directors working for them; it's about time kids have someone cooler than Nancy Reagan speaking on their behalf.

Again I find myself defending the "idiot box" and blockbuster movies, but if you have a fighting spirit it's possible to find inspiration anywhere. I found mine during "a word from our sponsors."

Latina divas share their traveling beauty expertise

I recently attended the Voz de la Alianza Latina Estudiantil (VALE) conference with several members of the JJC Latinos Unidos Club.

I learned a lot from this two-day event and was very motivated by it. I was moved by one of the speakers so much that that I need to invest in waterproof mascara.

Anyhow, the conference was a semi-formal conference, and required an extra bag and caboodle for a social gala the second night of the conference.

I must say I also learned a lot about beauty tips, and tricks on the go and for at home. I even learned from the other women that have gone to like a zillion of these conferences how to minimize. No matter how seasoned some of them were though, there were some rough moments.

The night that we were getting ready for the social gala, I wondered how we would even survive the getting ready part, let alone the social gala itself.

As we all rushed around like guys trying to get to a keg before it went dry, we realized one thing. No matter how prepared we thought



Vanity for Oxymorons

by Lorraine Guerrero

we were, none of us were really prepared enough.

Everyone did have a few essentials with them and suggestions on what to have on hand at all times.

As far as skincare goes, the women from the conference agreed that the following were essential: Moisturizer (Eucerin Plus facial moisturizer was number one among almost everyone; its purpose is not only to moisturize but also it makes your skin look much better whether you use foundation or not, and it has built-in sunscreen. Face wash (Neutrogena Deep Clean), and body wash were also recommended because hotel soaps are not happening (Neutrogena Body Clear Body Wash).

Now your hair is another important factor. If you want to work with full, clean and healthy hair, use Neutrogena Clean balancing shampoo.

As far as conditioner goes, many of the women agreed that Loreal's line of Vive conditioners were good, the best being Nutri-Vive.

As far as deodorant goes, stick with only those that dry clear and will keep you dry as you dance the night away such as Secret Platinum Protection. As far as makeup goes, Loreal Voluminous Mascara comes highly recommended by Elba Vargas, who could put the Almay eye lash spokes model out of employment just by bating her beautiful eyelashes.

Eyelliner such as Cover Girl perfect point eyelliner was our conference make-up artist's Heladia Zavala's favorite.

If possible, the women tried to emphasize keeping some of our makeup tools down to a minimum. Try this by using a foundation with sunscreen and moisturizer com-

bined such as Oil of Olay hydrating foundation. Then instead of carrying a lipstick, blush, and an eye shadow, try the color cover all stick by Jane, which does it all.

By the way, Jane by Sassaby has high quality make up and it's low cost. Don't forget about bringing these next few products along in your bags either: a hairbrush, tweezers, tampons (because you just never know), razor, toothbrush, tooth paste, clear nail polish in case of a run in your nylons, medium sized curling iron, or a curling iron that allows you to adjust sizes.

Portable, cordless curling irons are also a good investment. A portable clothes iron is also an excellent investment for short trips, and do not forget your blow dryer!

"Do not depend on anyone else for anything," said Alicia Morales, remembering one of the "traumas" of the conference. "Many of us depend on some-

one to have an essential when you go on a trip, such as a blow dryer. Well, sharing two blow dryers between twenty girls just does not work very effectively," she laughed.

Now that I have given you the name of some products that were found to work wonders for these Latina fashion divas, here are some tips on how to not only look the best, but also how to be the best person you can be. These words are by Audrey Hepburn, entitled, "Beauty Tips."

"For attractive lips, speak words of kindness."

"For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people."

"For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry."

"For beautiful hair, let a child run his or her fingers through it once a day."

"For poise, walk with the knowledge you'll never walk alone."

"People, even more than things, have to be restored, renewed, revived, reclaimed, and redeemed."

"Never throw out anybody. Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you'll find one at

Question of the Issue

"Now that the tuition increase has been approved by the board, what do you think the money should go toward and why?"



"We need more full-time faculty."
Rosa Salazar, Sophomore



"I really don't care."
Helen Kapsimatis, Freshman



"It should be used to continue the quality service and to increase our technology on a consistent basis to keep up with the times."
Carol Hamilton, Sophomore



"Tuition increase money should go toward building a bridge from T Building to Kristin Disabato, Freshman

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The Blazer is a student-run publication. Opinions expressed in the Blazer do not necessarily reflect the views of the faculty or administration.

News

JJC police department takes preventive measures

by Katherine Fitzgibbon

Last summer at JJC there were an increased number of thefts, especially involving college property. That is why this year campus police have stepped up its security measures.

These security measures include adding undercover or "plain clothed" officers, the addition of two officers to the force and newly installed cameras to monitor the parking lots. Three new cameras have replaced older inefficient ones, and they offer a much better view of the parking lots.

These new cameras have color pictures

that are much clearer, and show good pictures in low light.

According to Chief Steven Bennett, "Had we had something like this recording 24 hours a day, it would have helped greatly with the property thefts."

Since November there have been no property claims or break-ins, and only minor thefts have been reported, like backpacks or calculators, according to Bennett. In January there were nine thefts reported, and one criminal assault, and in February two thefts and one aggravated assault and battery were reported.

The police department is continuing to increase its security, and they hope to add two more officers to the force.

The department is also hoping to install more cameras to face the buildings so the doorways can be monitored, which would also help to prevent theft of school property. These security measures are not just for the main campus.

There is "standardization for all locations, they are all increasing at the same time," according to Bennett.

Even these petty thefts can be prevented if you follow a couple of tips given by

Bennett. He advises to always be alert of your circumstances and surroundings, and never leave backpacks, pocketbooks, briefcases, purses or anything of value unattended in the cafeteria, on tables along the bridge, or anywhere else inside or outside of the buildings.

Another thing students can help the police with is information. Any tips or information about crimes can be made anonymously to the campus police, 815-729-9020, extension 2234. Students can help without having to be directly involved in the investigation.

Community service positions available through Career Planning and Placement

The JJC Career Planning and Placement Center is now offering help in finding community service positions through the Job Location and Development program. This allows students to not only obtain paid work experience, but also allows the student to gain experience in learning about the individuals who make up their community and what special needs they may have.

The JJC Career Planning & Placement Center has canvassed the greater Joliet area to locate employers who meet this criteria.

Organizations such as Cornerstone and Trinity Services offer assistance to the mentally and developmentally disabled. As an Independent Living Counselor or Residential Supervisor, you would have the opportunity to foster an individual's independence through teaching life skills and providing direct care.

Gelowich YMCA on Houbolt Road, located near JJC, offers the opportunity to work with children in a variety of after-school programs. They also offer administrative and driving posi-

tions. As spring begins, Pilchur Park Nature Center will need a supply of naturalists and horticulturists to present programs to schoolchildren.

Community service covers a wide range of opportunities. It can also be extremely rewarding and fun. If you are interested in obtaining a part-time or full-time position, please contact Kathy Davis at 280-2711 or Mary Brenzewski at 280-2756.

Huge job fair to be held April 5 at main campus

On Wednesday, April 5, from 2 until 6 p.m., there will be employers on the main campus recruiting for job openings ranging from full-time, high-skilled, with educational requirements, to part-time or seasonal, low-skilled. Employers will be located in the cafeteria, in D-Concourse, and in A and T Building Concourses. There will be resource organizations (childcare, training, social service) on the bridge.

Last year 108 employers attended, and this year even more are expected.

All students, alumni and community residents are invited to attend. Many employers are looking for students about to complete JJC programs. Others are willing to fill summer or part-time jobs.

To see a list (updated weekly and with web page links) of registered employers and the jobs for which they are recruiting, go to the JJC web site, click on Student Services, click on Career Planning and Placement, scroll down and click on the Job Fair, click on List of Employers.

Also in the Job Fair web page are instructions for students and other job seekers to help them prepare. These may be printed off the web site. A video on job fair preparation will be playing on the internal cable system. Most attending employers will expect resumes to be handed to them. The Career Planning and Placement Office in Q-1010, the Student Center, will help students prepare resumes, if needed.

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News

News Briefs

Student Trustee elections features roaming poll booth

Student Trustee elections are going to be held April 10 and 11 on main campus from 8:30 a.m. until 7:45 p.m. Students running for the election are Anthony Fenili, Eugene Gaskin and Rosa Salazar.

This year, the poll booth will be roaming all over campus. The balloting schedule is as follows: D-Building 8:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m., J-Building 11:30 a.m.-1:45 p.m., D-Building 2 p.m.-2:45 p.m., and T-Building 3 p.m.-7:45 p.m.

April 12 the election results will be posted, and April 15 the student trustee's term begins.

Drop date

The last day to withdraw from classes has been changed to April 18, 2000. The original April 27, 2000 drop date was after the end of several evening classes. This is in violation of the Academic Standards Committee's recommendation that states that the shortest time period between the end of the semester and the last day to withdraw must be at least 7 days.

Women's History Month events

In cooperation with Women's History Month this March, "Survival As Resistance: Women's Economic Strategies During Global Restructuring" will be presented by Dr. Kathryn Ward Friday, March 24 at noon in the theatre.

JC players to present drama 'Steel Magnolia's'

by Eric Yankee

The JJC Fine Arts Department will present the charming tear jerking Southern drama, "Steel Magnolia's" on April 13-15 at 8 p.m. and April 16 at 2:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Theatre, located in "K" building.

"Steel Magnolia's" was written by Robert Harling. It is a charming southern drama that is based on a true story about friendship and making the right choice even when the consequences are severe.

"Steel Magnolia's" takes place at Truvy's beauty parlor in Louisiana where the six friends come together to get their hair done and escape the men in their lives. Over the course of the play, a pretty young woman, Shelby, is faced with a decision where her very life

Sexual Assault Awareness Day will be celebrated Wednesday, March 29 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on the bridge. JJC students will perform two skits on sexual assault and date rape drugs followed by a discussion about sexual assault myths and facts. Participants will have the opportunity to view a sexual assault evidence collection kit. Tips on how to keep yourself safe will also be shared.

Recognition Awards

The Office of Student Services and Activities will be sponsoring the Student Achievement Recognition Awards at the 2000 Commencement Exercise. This marks the 29th year that they have sponsored this award. The Student Achievement Recognition Program is designed to reward individual student initiative regardless of their field of study.

Applications can be written by students, however, a faculty or staff member must verify them. A selection committee will review the applications, and two outstanding students will be selected to receive a \$200 honorarium.

Criteria and applications can be picked up at the Office of Student Services and Activities in D-1010. All entries must be submitted by Monday, March 27, 2000 before 4:30 p.m. to D-1010.

Film Forum

The African film "Tilal" will be shown March 22 at 2 p.m. and March 23 at 7 p.m. in room D-2002. In "Tilal," a man returns home to find his father married to his teenage. Secretly, he resumes his relationship with his new step-mother despite the fact that this incestuous liaison is punishable by

death.

Stress and time management seminar

Joliet Junior College offers the seminar, "Balancing the Demands of a Busy Workplace: Strategies for Managing Stress and Time," from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesday, March 22, at the main campus.

The program looks at ways to

achieve more balance in a busy workplace and personal life by identifying stressors, developing strategies to better manage stressful situations, and identifying ways to banish time wasters and make better use of time.

The fee is \$59. To register or for more information, call (815) 289-1555.

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Features

Internet Reviews

Websites available online for help with research papers

by Natalie Mau

More than halfway through the semester there are few words more repellent to the average college student than "research paper." Bunched over a stack of encyclopedias and Cliffs Notes, the struggling student wonders, "Isn't there a better way?"

Yes, in fact there is—say hello to your new study buddy, the Internet.

The World-Wide-Web is more than just a place to park your homepage and download pictures of your Hollywood sweetheart. The following sites offer free help on research papers.

They are, of course, to be used as aids only, as plagiarism is a crime.

The key to a good paper is organization,

which is precisely what the first site helps you to do. Located on the web at <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/oracle/4184/>, this helper directs the cyber-surfer to other sites at which you can research current events, literary works and history. It even links you to an online dictionary and provides guidelines to MLA citations, a requirement on many college papers.

Even the best research is wasted in a poorly written paper, which is why students should bookmark www.nutsandbolts-guide.com.

Like the address says, this site gives nuts and bolts help on mechanics, style, structure, quoting, citations and even conclusions. Hosted by Washington College, it's a useful

and well-organized site.

Style and structure will only go so far when you don't know what to write about! At www.lib.ohio.edu/research/idea-generator.shtml all you need to know is what class you're in.

Simply click a subject field and the generator comes up with enough ideas to get you started, use topics directly or develop them into something original.

At researchpaper.com, the helpless pupil can chat with other students, gaining ideas and guidance. There is also an idea directory, a writing help center, and an eLibrary tracker that searches for articles you need and delivers them to your e-mail for free. As an added bonus, the ideas in the directory are

linked to other sites at which they can be researched.

If literature has you stumped, search the web at <http://landow.stg.brown.edu/victorian/victor.html> for everything you ever wanted to know about Victorian literature, including gender issues, religion, science, technology and more.

Other helpful sites include www.census.gov, www.s9.com/biography/ and www.emule.com/poetry-a-census-bureau-biographical-dictionary-and-poetry-archives-respectfully.

If all else fails, read a book.

"The Research Paper and the WWW," by Dawn Rodrigues, is a useful road map for the information superhighway.

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Horoscopes

by Amy Lakeberg

Aries (March 21 to April 20): The continual fighting going on in your new relationship will make its amends by the end of the month. It's a good idea to not make any promises to your best friends.

Taurus (April 21 to May 20): Some of your aggressiveness could be put into good use in your studies and work. Use the extra time you have now to plan ahead for the summer.

Gemini (May 21 to June 21): Even though you usually like to move rapidly between relationships, give your current one a little more time before you decide to call it quits. Sometimes longer than three months is a good thing.

Cancer (June 22 to July 22): Accept the apology you will receive from someone close to you. The relationship that you have together is important, keep it that way.

Leo (July 23 to Aug. 22): Taking chances is what this month is all about. You will receive support from your family and friends about the main interest you are pursuing in your life right now.

Virgo (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Your investments in money will pay off this month. Keep on saving and you could have some big bucks by summer.

Libra (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Your inferences about the relationships in your life could not be more wrong this month. Don't carry any prejudices about the past. It's over and done with.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Your rash personality should be kept on hold this month between you and your friends. If not, it could end up in a fight that could be very harmful to the health of your relationships.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): You are feeling guilty this month about a relationship in the past. Try to win that person's heart back is not optional, re-constructing the friendship is more important at this point.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Your controlling nature will be useful in your work life. It will help you to get ahead and not let others take advantage of you.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): You will be surprised when someone you thought would never appreciate your ideas actually does. This month will bring a lot of helpful changes.

Pisces (Feb. 19 to March 20): Use your intuitive powers to help solve your problems this month. Don't worry about what others think of your decisions; you are the one making them.

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Sports

From the sidelines



The Wolves, now 2-11, were ranked fourth in the NCAA Division III preseason poll. (See page 8 for full story) Photo taken by Lorraine Guerrero

JJC Football

Renovation of practice field will bring games a little closer to home

by Tony Ciampa

The change of seasons from winter and spring will bring the idea of a new stadium into reality.

Over the next few months the renovation of an old practice field on the college main campus will become the new stadium JJC has needed for years.

In past years, JJC has rented Memorial Stadium on Jefferson Street in Joliet for football games. Prices for renting the stadium were \$1,000 per day game and \$1,200 per night game, according to the athletic department.

Allocated \$168,000 by the Board of Trustees to build the stadium, JJC will be making as many additions as money will allow. Some of the first additions to be made will be new goalposts, a new scoreboard and bleachers that initially will be able to hold from 800 to 1000 people seated.

One of the main concerns about building the new stadium has been how much support the students and community have given the team in recent years. The athletic department and the board

hope the new on-campus facility will help generate more enthusiasm for the football team.

The hiring of new Head Coach Bob MacDougall should help the team to move in the right direction. The athletic department and board hope that winning on the field will translate to more people in the stands.

MacDougall, 56, comes to JJC after a successful career at College of Dupage. During a successful 21-year career at COD, MacDougall had a record of 174-59, fifth best on the all-time NCAA victory list entering last season.

JJC finished the 1999 season under Coach Matt Kalb with a 3-5 record. In his first year as head coach, Kalb led the Wolves to a 5-4 record in 1998, but resigned after the 1999 season, saying he wanted to gain more experience at the

Division I level.

Another way students will be asked to become involved in helping with improvements over the next few years will be through fund-raisers.

The stadium should become a useful event center for many events in the future. When possible, graduation day ceremonies will be able to be held outdoors.

There will also be more opportunities for carnivals or fairs to be held to bring more revenue to the school.

Another major opportunity will be the chance of new sports being added at JJC. Soccer would seem to have the greatest chance of joining the sports program at JJC in the near future. Cristobal Trillo, a faculty member at JJC, currently coaches a soccer club at the college.

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Buying a piece of brick history

By Michelle Tarrant

Celebrating its Centennial Celebration in 2001, JJC has a number of projects on hand to welcome the upcoming occasion.

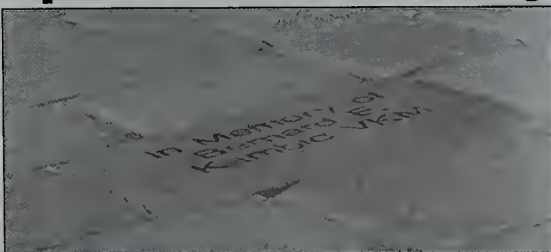
One of the biggest plans for the school in the next few months will be the Centennial Paver Brick Project.

The project, being run by the Joliet Junior College Foundation, consists of the special commemorative bricks being placed at the entrance to the D-Building.

Individual bricks are being sold at a cost of \$100 and are 9.5 inches wide. The college has already sold approximately 157 bricks that allow the sponsor to have their name and special date engraved on it.

The project has so far been an opportunity for students, parents, and many organizations to be part of a meaningful tribute to the JJC's Main Campus.

Bricks have already been purchased for the Centennial



Building entry way features the new donated bricks pictured above

photo taken by Lorraine Guerrero

Celebration as wedding, birthday, and graduation gifts.

Others were also purchased to honor athletic teams, academic groups and instructors at the college.

Many believe that this is an opportunity to be part of JJC history.

"I think it is a wonderful idea," said Pat Carter, mother of two JJC students. "It would be a great graduation gift for my kids that would last forever."

According to the JJC Foundation Office, the proceeds

from the sale of the bricks will go toward supporting campus beautification efforts and other projects.

For any information on the JJC Centennial Paver Brick Project or to receive a brochure on the project, call the JJC Foundation Office at (815) 280-2514.

Holistic Wellness

JJC raises alcohol awareness in April

By Michelle Tarrant

Alcohol Awareness Month has arrived at JJC with many events and activities planned for April by Holistic Wellness Coordinator Pam Dilday.

Alcohol Awareness Month, sponsored since 1987 by the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence Inc., encourages local communities to focus on underage drinking.

Nearly 14 million Americans are alcoholic or problem drinkers, according to NCAAD.

Four times as many people have been exposed to alcoholism in their families.

Every year alcohol kills 100,000 Americans making it the nation's third leading cause of pre-

ventable death.

Holistic Wellness at JJC plans alcohol awareness-related activities throughout the academic year. According to Dilday, many events are occurring this month to spread alcohol awareness to all JJC students.

A Sobering Stories Display is on the bridge, and will be on display until the end of the month.

"The display was my concept, but now has been sent out to all Illinois colleges and universities to use," said Dilday. The exhibition includes real life pictures and stories of those who have lost their lives in alcohol-related crashes.

On April 10 there was a virtual party located on the bridge, with free pizza and pop for students

hosted by the Peers Promoting Wellness club.

The PPW used the Alcohol 101 program at the party.

"Alcohol 101 is an interactive computer program," said Dilday. "Students get a chance to answer alcohol-related questions, see video and learn the facts about alcohol consumption."

PPW also handed out key chains and information. An Alcohol Jeopardy game took place that day as well.

April 14 will bring another party to the bridge at JJC. From 11 p.m. to 1 p.m., PPW will sponsor this Non-Alcoholic Party. There will be games, food and music on hand.

The biggest event of the day

will be at noon, with all JJC clubs and organizations invited to participate in a non-alcoholic drink Contest with students and staff voting on the best drink.

"There is no entry fee for clubs," said Dilday. "Clubs are invited to come up with an original drink or use one that already has a recipe and rename it."

Cash prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third place winners. There is no entry fee for clubs.

If students have any questions or concerns regarding Alcohol Awareness Month or the activities planned this month, they can contact Pam Dilday at ext. 2202, or stop by her office in D1012.

Commentary

Millions expected to celebrate Earth Day

Activities to be hosted across the nation on 30th anniversary

by Eric Yankee

"Just imagine . . . a relaxing picnic in the park with the guy/girl of your dreams.

The fresh flowers, the gentle breeze, the smog from the steel mill, the McDonald's bag on the ground, the frog that glows in the dark thanks to the radiation of the nearby nuclear power plant. Sound like fun?

It's that time of year again when everyone focuses on the environment and what can be done to protect it and clean it all up.

April 22 is Earth Day 2000. Earth Day is a yearly event held to increase awareness of environmental issues on our little planet in the solar system, known as Earth.

It's the only Earth we've got, so we'd better learn how to take care of it.

This year on Earth Day, there will be thousands of environmental

activities to participate in. The Earth Day Network has a website at <http://www.Earthday.com> that lists all the various activities for Earth Day in your area. Clean up a park, protest a nasty smog-producing coal factory, be kind to the animals, do what it takes to get involved and make a difference.

On March 22, 2000, the Earth Day Network kicked off its "30 days to the 30th Anniversary of Earth Day."

Many communities around the country hosted activities centered on the theme of 30 in honor of Earth Day's anniversary.

According to Denis Hayes, National Coordinator of the first Earth Day and Chair of the Earth Day Network, the 30th Anniversary of Earth Day will be the biggest Earth Day yet.

Millions of people will come together in the United States and around the world to rally for a

switch to clean energy and take action for a cleaner, healthier environment."

The film "Erin Brokovich" recently opened in movie theaters around the country. The film is based on a true story and is heavy with environmental themes.

It stars Julia Roberts in the title role of a working class woman who joins a law firm as a secretary and ends up investigating a case involving poisoned water in a small California town. Erin goes against the big corporation of PG&E which was responsible for the mess.

Many people in the town were poisoned from drinking the water, which contained high levels of a toxic chemical called hexavalent chromium. PG&E was accused of covering up the pollution of the water and actually told the residents of Hinckley that the chromium in the water was good for them!

The chromium actually caused cancer and other medical problems in hundreds of the town's residents.

Not only is it a good movie, but it also raises your awareness of the problems which face our environment.

As we advance into the new millennium, there has been increased awareness of environmental issues.

Earth-based religions such as Wicca and other forms of paganism are growing rapidly in the United States and around the world. Laws are in the works that should help protect and clean up the environment, providing they are successfully passed. It is clear that someone out there cares about the Earth.

The key to success is to make Earth Day every day. By remaining sensitive to Mother Nature's plight 365 days out of the year, we can get more accomplished than is possible in a single day.

Opinion

Weight discrimination hurts when thin is not in

Say the name Calista Flockhart and you'll probably be overwhelmed by opinions on her appearance. It's a safe bet the opinions won't be positive, either. Tum to any late night talk show and you're sure to hear at least one crack about her small frame.

Flockhart, despite countless denials and testimonials from friends and colleagues, has been accused of having an eating disorder.

Only in Hollywood, of mixed messages, would a woman assumed to have an eating disorder be treated this way—not with compassion, but with contempt. And only in Hollywood, the place where one cannot be too rich or too thin, would there exist such a narrow definition of beauty that Jennifer Lopez is too fat and Flockhart is too thin.

If you're in the spot light and overweight, Howard Stern can't

LettersMakeWords

by Natalie Mau



make enough jokes about you.

If you're deemed to thin, you're on Conan O'Brien's hit list. Despite all this supposed concern over Flockhart's weight, however, magazine covers across the country all boast sure-fire diets to trim you down 15 pounds by bikini season. Is there no happy, healthy medium?

As one of three fairly thin women in my household, I can vouch for it—yes, it is possible to be naturally thin. It is not uncommon for a stranger to grab my money arm and demand that I eat something. Not only is this presumptuous and rude, but it's also quite prejudiced. This

erroneous notion that any thin woman is starving herself has haunted me since high school, and I'm not abnormally thin by any means. I can't imagine the comments people smaller than me must fend off daily.

People seem to assume that thin people are less sensitive to insults about their appearance than others are. It's simply not true. It hurts a thin person just as much when someone falsely accuses them of an eating disorder as it would a weight-challenged person accused of simply eating too much.

Besides the fact that it's unbelievably impolite to negatively com-

ment on another person's appearance, it sends terrible mixed messages to the public. On one hand, the media has hyped thin as in for decades. On the other hand, actresses such as Flockhart, Terry Hatcher and Lara Flynn Boyle are assumed to be sick and are publicly ridiculed. Meanwhile, people witness this behavior and learn that it's OK to treat people like this in "real life" as well.

There is a not-so-fine line between expressing concern over a person's health and just being offensive, and I've seen it crossed countless times.

Weight and appearance are such fleeting qualities, are they even worth getting ourselves so concerned over? All living beings are sensitive creatures, and regardless of aesthetics, we all deserve to be treated respectfully.

God is not white, a sports fan, or Republican

Last year in a famed magazine interview, ex-wrestler/navy seal and now Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura made this comment, "Organized religion is a sham, and a crutch for weak-minded people who need strength in numbers."

My first reaction was anger because the statement was insulting to both past and present day people of faith like Mother Teresa, Martin Luther King, and Rev. Billy Graham.

But after a second thought I realized Ventura's statement has an element of truth in it because some aspects of modern American religion are a "sham."

Consider images of the divine. Depictions of God are always guesswork and pictures of Christ are sometimes plainly inaccurate. During the time of the renaissance, painters and sculptors portrayed God, Christ, and Mary with distinctly European features, despite the fact that God has no nationality and Christ was Jewish.

American portrayals of God are usually of a grandpa with white hair, wearing a robe, sitting on a cloud or carrying a cane. Christ is



Take a closer look

by Matt Furlane

frequently portrayed as a bald, wearing-hippy guy from a 60s commune with long straight hair (sometimes blond), who looks like he's about to say, "Wow people. Drop out and tune into me."

The Spirit is usually portrayed as a dove, which is a misinterpretation of a New Testament statement referring to the Spirit as descending like a dove.

If these depictions are true I wonder what other nationalities are supposed to think? Do they have to create their own ethnocentric God or accept the American version? It doesn't make much sense given the fact that God is supposed to transcend race and deal with the issues of a person's heart.

Another element that has become popular is the idea of God as sports fan. Every year sports stars trivialize religion by making

the sign of the cross, pointing to the sky, or praying after scoring. Sports casters often speak fondly of the "Immaculate Reception," "Hail Mary" passes, and divine intervention in the course of a game.

As if God magically makes athletes perform exceptionally and cares who wins or what happens in a form of entertainment.

I wonder when bowling and lawn darts are going to start attracting divine attention? Or how about professional wrestling and cage fighting?

Think about the possible expressions of piety like: "I would like to give thanks for being able to hit my opponent over the head with that chair" or "I would like to pray for the ability to destroy my opponents without hurting myself."

That would be too low-class! I suppose, I guess God is just some-

thing for universities and big league sports. Get kind of stupid once you think about it.

In the realm of politics today, although not openly stated, God is Republican favorite has become an accepted pet idea. Organizations frequently take God's name and use it for their own causes whether they be mainstream or fringe.

Today it seems only the Republican Party wants God or bothers to bring up the issue of spiritual truth. Why not Democrat, Libertarian, or the Reformed Party? Politically, if anything, I lean towards being libertarian. If I decide to vote, I vote for whom-ever I think can govern best without

intruding into people's lives.

But I wonder if democrats or libertarians can have a voice in religious matters? Is it right for a political group to claim God at all or be associated with one group? Maybe Jesse Ventura should start his own denomination—"Well, yes know, I would just like to say that I'm the new pope of the Minnesota Church of The Body and that's just who I am."

Politics should be about the constitution and governing well for the people, not about particular religious groups.

I think the best way to avoid the "sham" of American religion is to see that the first mention of God with a capital "G" is in Jewish History, not in American history.

The American version with it's overly political-white: "God won the game for us" religiosity should be seen for what it is—a crutch for weak minded people."

EDITORIAL

The Blazer editorial staff applauds People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals for dropping it's anti-milk, "Got Beer" campaign.

Responding to concern from Mothers Against Drunk Driving, PETA pulled the ads, which featured ways in which beer is healthier than cow's milk.

It was PETA's intent to bring the suffering of dairy animals to the attention of college students, a noble cause executed poorly.

PETA played into the stereotypical notion of the drunken college student, and inad-



Peta's new anti-milk campaign has a missing "Charlie" with the slogan "Save His Life! Dump Dairy" rather than "Got Beer?" veritently gave those living that stereotype another excuse for irre-

sponsible behavior.

The new campaign, "Dump Dairy," focuses on the deplorable treatment of dairy animals and the unhealthiness of dairy products. Posters for this campaign feature Charlie, a calf about whom is said "Wanted: Last seen crying as he was being taken from his mother and put on a truck headed for a torturousveal critic."

The new ads do not encourage replacing milk with beer, but rather with rice and soy milk.

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Letter to the editor

Student service fees may be athletically biased

Dear Editor:

Do you know where your money goes after you pay for your classes each semester? You may think you do just as I thought I did, but I had no idea how athletic-based our budget is at Joliet Junior College until I heard some astounding numbers and decided to do some research of my own.

JJC has 10,516 students this semester and of those 10,516, there are only 172 athletes. Each student pays \$54 per credit hour total. \$44 is the base tuition amount. In addition to that amount, there is a \$3 course fee which goes toward the class itself, a \$4 technology fee which goes toward the funding of the internet and e-mail services provided at JJC and each student also pays a \$3 student service fee which goes toward the funding of the theater, Blazer, Wordcaster, student clubs, livestock judging, the child care center, the athletic department and several other activities and student services.

The \$3 student service fee is what I am most concerned about. I feel that as a student of JJC, I am not given as much, financially, as a student who is part of the athletic

department. The budget is not being distributed evenly or fairly. I received a copy of the 1999-2000 budget from the Student Services Department. They are allowed a total budget of \$656,844. The budget is broken down into four categories: cultural series, student organizations, childcare center and athletics. Cultural series includes the theater, musical ensemble, forensics, Wordcaster, Blazer, theater subscriptions and college bowl is budgeted \$66,913. The student organizations consist of livestock judging, student clubs and gospel chorus, which are supplied with \$119,205. The childcare center is granted \$98,888. The athletic department is given the largest amount of the student service money. They are given \$371,838 and keep in mind they have the least amount of people active — only 172 students.

Okay, so the budget is not distributed evenly. I am having a hard time accepting the fact that the athletic department gets a majority of the money, but I am also concerned that the budget is biased within the athletic department. Males' sports receive \$96,470 (26 percent of the

athletic department budget) and females' sports receive \$55,049 (15 percent of the department's budget), that equals a difference of \$41,421. This shows that female sports are not worthy of as much money as male sports. This also emphasizes the fact that JJC has made many budgeting mistakes, which could turn into big problems, not only within the school, but also with the federal government, if not handled. In 1972, Congress passed a wonderful piece of legislation that protects women from being discriminated against in federally funded education, including athletics. This piece of legislation is known as Title IX. Most schools who receive federal funding are in compliance with Title IX, yet no school has ever lost any of the federal assistance. So, what is the benefit of this law when it is not being followed and enforced?

I see many problems with having their budget set up the way it is. Dr. Hauwiler, director of research and planning feels that "the budget should be set up in such a way that the majority of the student body will benefit from it." As I study my numbers and the budget, I come to

the conclusion that this isn't happening. A majority of the students are sharing a small amount of money when a small number of students are benefiting from over half the budget. Dr. Hauwiler thinks the money at JJC should be used in a manner that will make students feel they are connected to JJC, even when they leave this school. The way the budget is set up, the athletes are the only ones who will walk away from JJC with a feeling of being somehow connected.

When I was asking how students felt about this budget, I had a male basketball-playing student tell me that athletics are the most important because they are supported more by the surrounding communities than any other extracurricular activity. I would like to argue that the theater department at JJC, for example, is supported just as much by the community as the athletic department. In fact, there are more people at any given play performance than there are at any football or basketball game. If that is the case, that athletics are the most important to JJC, then why is it called a "junior college" or "transfer college"? Each extra curricular activity should be valued equally because they are of equal value to the individual student. This is best illustrated by saying that athletics is to an athlete as acting is to a performer or academics is to a scholar as livestock judging is to an agriculturist. How can one individual put a higher value on one activity over another?

In a survey that I conducted over the past few weeks, I learned where the students really want their \$3 student services fee to go. I surveyed a wide variety of students at JJC, both men and women younger than 25 and over 25. Their comments weren't different at all. I asked the people surveyed to list three places they would like to see their money going to support. The

top three places were the childcare center, theater and parking facilities and campus police. The childcare center to parents can leave their children somewhere else they will feel safe while they continue their education. The second place was the theater so that our school can put on more productions throughout the year. The third suggestion was that more money goes toward the parking facilities and campus police because when people leave after a late night class, there aren't any police around and the parking lots aren't well lit and they don't feel safe and secure. Some students would like to see more money going toward the tutoring department or the cafeteria, but only a minority of students would like to see their money support the athletic department. Wouldn't it be nice to know that our money is being used in a manner that more students would benefit from it?

It is important to fully understand a problem before you can make any possible suggestions as to how to fix it. So, now that we fully understand that there are problems with the budget, we can touch upon some things that we, as students, can do. First of all, each student needs to voice their opinion and stand up for what they believe in. Miss Pryga, sociology teacher states, "It does not matter what they outcome or consequences are, it is the fact that you are standing up for what you believe in." In other words, it does not matter if one voices their opinion and it can touch upon some things that we, as students, can do. First of all, each student needs to voice their opinion and stand up for what they believe in. Miss Pryga, sociology teacher states, "It does not matter what they outcome or consequences are, it is the fact that you are standing up for what you believe in." In other words, it does not matter if one voices their opinion and it can touch upon some things that we, as students, can do. First of all, each student needs to voice their opinion and stand up for what they believe in. President J.D. Ross could like to see more students voicing their opinions so proper changes can be made. Take advantage of your right to a fair education and stand up for your beliefs.

From Brianne L. Carter

Question of the Issue

"How do you feel about PETA(People for the ethical treatment of animals)pulling it's anti-milk 'Got Beer' campaign? Do you feel this was a responsible decision? Did you think the campaign was effective?"



"Wow, PETA may have offended anti-alcohol groups such as M.A.D.D. the campaign was effective against advocating animal ethics. Perhaps a modification of the message will assuage the discomfort of the anti-alcohol coalition." Dan Wolf, 20, sophomore.



"I was against the anti-milk got beer campaign because if you are trying to obtain a healthy lifestyle you should not substitute alcohol for animal products." Brooke Hernandez, 21, sophomore



"Horror! They pulled it because it faced an issue, yet it caused an issue." by Seth Cowan, 18, freshman



"I think (college students) would have drank beer instead of milk regardless, so it was ineffective anyway." Brandy Perona, 19, sophomore



"Why bring beer into the picture. They could have said 'Got orange juice.' I think it was good they pulled the campaign." Felipe Villa Gouze, 22, sophomore



"It was a pretty stupid campaign. Substituting beer for milk. Besides, was I going to drink Nicholob with my Coco Puffs?" Maurice Hess, ageless, sophomore

The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters. Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and the sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through interoffice or regular mail, or drop them off at the Blazer office at G-1009.

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Features

Latinos Unido's pushes for higher learning

by Lorraine Guerrero

Joliet Junior College has had a very involved, productive year. Almost every person, including administrators, staff, faculty and students has committed him or herself to contributing to our community somehow, from the actual coordinating of events and fundraisers to attending them.

One club that has really been involved in almost every

aspect of the college is Latino's Unidos. The club's members have volunteered their time for everything from attending parades, to being mentors for Big Brothers Big Sisters, to setting up concession stands for other programs.

The club has been busy working on it's own events as well, such as attending leadership conferences, throwing fundraiser such as bake sales, and car washes,

dances, and is still planning a huge Cinco de Mayo (May 5) celebration.

All of this activity is not only to have fun. The club has one main objective, to work on recruiting, enrollment and retention of students with a focus on the under-represented Latino population at Joliet Junior College.

One reason that Latinos Unidos is so avid in recruiting stu-

dents is because JJC does not have its own Hispanic campus recruiter or even one to focus on recruiting Hispanics, so the club has taken on the responsibility and has really been pushing for higher enrollment in this area.

Not only has the club been pushing for the betterment of younger generations education, but the club itself is focusing on higher learning for themselves and fellow students by trying to accredit a course called the Collegiate Leadership Development Program.

This program's main objective is to cultivate the next generation of leaders through greater activism on campus and in their community with a focus on Latino students.

The nationally recognized program has already been accredited at other major universities across the country, but JJC administrators and staff have yet to give its approval. Some of the conferences the club has attended include the United States Hispanic Leadership Conference in which they met major politicians such as President Bill Clinton; and V.A.L.E. Conference, the I.L.A.C.H.E. Conference which was chaired by Dr. Berta Arias.

The next major conference will be the Midwest Hispanic Leadership Conference on April 21.

Students attending these conferences really learn how to skills according to Alicia Morales, Latinos Unidos Vice-President.

Some of these skills include

and are not limited to: working with college administrators, faculty and staff; the ins and outs of being accepted to a school of our choice in the different levels of higher; how to supplement a resume; how to match career interests with a compatible internship site; how to build stronger student organizations; how to write proposals to funding projects and events and how to manage our money.

As the club has learned that getting involved across the board is very important, some of the students have done just that.

Two of the students are currently involved on the Student Alliance, on planning committees, and one member even ran for the position of Student Trustee. The adviser Carole Hamilton was even given recognition by being nominated Volunteer of the Year for the United Way.

"If it were not for the understanding and support of certain people such as Jennifer Klobudz, Angie Kayson, Betty Lorch they are all wonderful and instrumental people. With out them the club would not be doing so well.

It's people like them and the help to make not only our club, but our college, an asset to the community," said one club member with others in agreement at a recent Latinos Unidos meeting.

Look forward to the Cinco de Mayo Celebration plans in the next issue of the Blazer.

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Features

CD REVIEW

Paisly smart, romantic, and funny Pumpkins rocking again Nerf Herder!

by Matt Packard

Brody Paisley:

"Who Needs Pictures"

RATING **1/2**

Brad Paisley is going to have a successful career in country music. He has the right look and a nice voice, but more than that, he sings a mighty fine.

His debut album is packed with inventive lines and fresh ideas. This record has already scored big hits with the nostalgic title track and the moving "He Didn't Have to Be."

He should have a few more coming with songs like "Me Neither."

This is the best use of sarcasm that I've heard on a record since

Jewels' "God's Gift to Women." He also used his sense of humor to bring life to "It Never Woulda Worked Out Anyway" and "Sleepin' on the Foldout." "Holdin' on to you" is a short and sweet ballad about trying to date with a recent love lost in mind.

Some of the clever lyrics include: "... Every now and then I nod and I pretend to pay attention, and I say things like 'uh huh' and 'yeah, you're right' and 'are you kiddin' and I laugh when it seems like the right thing to do. It's hard to hold a conversation holdin' on to you."

This is the kind of stuff that makes country songwriters want to consider a career change. Brad Paisley can be smart, romantic, funny and can be a formidable force in country music for a long time.

The Smashing Pumpkins:

MACHINA/the machines

RATING **3/4**

Billy and company are back to what made them one of the biggest acts in music earlier in their storied career. They are rocking again.

That's not to say that "Adore" wasn't a good album, but as sales figures indicate, fans want loud, involved rock and accompanying excess. They deliver rock on "The Everlasting Gaze" and (of course) "Heavy Metal Machine."

The disc also includes the absorbing "Glass and the Ghost Children," the three parts clock in around ten minutes. (It's no

"Paradise by the Dashboard Light" but what is?)

The band also sneaked in a few radio gems, such as "Stand Inside Your Love." While fans of the band will enjoy this record thoroughly, casual listeners will likely need a few spins to acquire a taste for most of it.

As we all know, those are the albums that usually become most dear to us.

Nerf Herder:

How to Meet Girls

RATING ****

Even nerd rock needs to progress. Nerf Herder has lost the beloved Charles and replaced him with bassist Justin Fisher and guitarist Dave Ehrlich.

Their second album finds them

making good use of new sounds and new instruments.

However, they still croon about being outcasts and joggling a few steps behind the cool kids.

How can you pass up titles like "Lamer Than, Lamer," "Pervert" and "Pantera Fans in Love?" While the humor is forced and more obvious than their previous work, it is still humorous.

When the lyrics aren't funny, the boys keep it interesting with sugary keyboards, subtle synths and rhythms and melodies that sound like they were stolen from Weezer's folder of songs.

Nerd rock doesn't get much better than this. Lead singer, Perry Gripp, often sounds like Steve Paltz singing into a fan; and that's just the right sound for singing lines like "I'd get a Michael Bolton tattoo, I'd change my name to Kenny G for you."

Britney puts on a good show

by Matt Packard

I'm glad I'm not the guy who has to clean up the thousands of lollipops, cotton candy and posters left behind by fans after being manhandled by Britney Spears for two straight nights at the Allstate Arena. She doesn't put on a concert as much as a show, but it's a great show. (Seriously!) Many other backup dancers could dance the princess of pop into a closet and her surprisingly talented band was never much more than part of the stage. Still, they all looked thrilled to be on stage as they smiled through entertaining dance routines and synthetic radio hits like "You Drive Me Crazy." The fans didn't always get live vocals, but they got what they paid for. There

was all the video footage a fan could handle, a rigged contest to find a club boy for Britney to sing to and they even did the hand jive! The hours of rehearsal and planning were evident throughout the show. The elegant and well-designed stage provided a circular video wall, well placed lighting and pyrotechnics. It also featured a "flying" platform from which Britney sent the kids into hysterical tears, just a few short feet above them. Spears appeared to be human. She was charming, appreciative and finally seemed at home on stage. Her fans treated her as if she was the most important figure in the music industry, and (if for only two nights) she looked like she deserved it.

And the best online auction goes to...

by Natalie Mau

Online auctions are a well-known tool of the modern day collector. Almost everyone knows to pop over to e-bay for all their antique needs. But most people may not be aware that cyber auctions offer more than just old Star Wars figures and vintage T-shirts, and there's more to auctioning than e-bay. The Internet offers an auction for almost everyone, here are some of the more interesting sites:

LoveThatLook.com calls itself "the world's first auction site for special occasion apparel." Specializing in wedding gowns from retail bridal shops, this well-organized site offers an array of dresses, gowns and accessories, including bridesmaid and flower girl gowns, at a bargain price. Sizes are limited, however, so anyone hoping for a thrifty wedding should get shopping.

Basket enthusiasts take note: abasket.com has arrived. Featuring hand-woven Longaberger baskets, this site is a

dream come true for collectors. So-called "basket cases" know how expensive these little items can be and are rushing to bid this site to get in on the savings.

Is the concert you're dying to see all sold out? Never fear, AllSoldOut.com is here! Legal scalping online? Not according to this site, which also offers tickets to theme parks, sporting events, spas and more. With Ticketmaster prices rising annually, AllSoldOut.com's free auctions and classifieds are sure to attract fans from all walks of life. BabyTender.com may sound like a black market for those looking to buy a baby, but its intentions are innocent and practical. The site offers new and used baby clothes and supplies to cash-strapped new parents.

Auctions aren't just for the older crowd, either, as demonstrated by Alloy Auctions at AlloyOnline.com. Here, you can "sell" stuff you no longer want, "and" nab stuff you need. "A hot

spot for teen dealers and bidders, Alloy offers clothes, collectibles, games, tickets, electronics and more. The clothing section is particularly popular. Alloy specializes in skateboarder-influenced apparel.

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Sports

King to coach All-star team in Tokyo

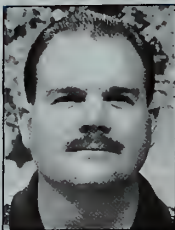
by Dave Parker
JJC Sports Inf. Director

Wayne King, the head baseball coach at Joliet Junior College, has been named as an assistant coach for a United States Junior College All-Star team which will play in Tokyo, Japan, this June 28-July 2. King, 42, is the winningest baseball coach in JJC history with 437 wins entering his 14th season as the school's coach.

Mike Eason, the head baseball coach at Indian River Community College in Fort Pierce, Fla., will be the USA All-Stars' manager. King and Chris Rupp, the head coach at San Jacinto College in Pasadena, Tex., are the assistant coaches.

"This is quite an honor. It is always a privilege and honor to represent the United States of America, regardless of what the venue might be," said King, Joliet JC's director of athletics the last five years.

"There was some talk at the annual American Baseball Coaches Association Convention in Chicago in early January that I might be picked as one of the assist-



Head baseball coach Wayne King, photo courtesy of athletic dept.

tant coaches for the team.

There was some inclination among various coaches that I would be chosen as a coach for the team going to Japan. Again, I feel honored and I am looking forward to what the trip to Japan will bring."

According to King, the USA Junior College All-Stars will field a 25-man team, comprised of student-athletes from Division I, II

and III junior colleges. The squad will be chosen in June as the team will then meet in Houston, Tex., on June 23 before leaving for Japan on the 24th.

"Once the team is picked, we plan to play some games in Texas before leaving for Japan. As of right now anyway, it looks like we will play five games in Japan."

Tony Pasch, an NCAA All-America right-handed pitcher on the Wolves' national championship squad, pitched for a junior college All-Star team which hosted a Japan team in the summer of 1994 in Colorado.

"The entire experience of traveling to Japan, spending time there and meeting new people is something I am sure that I will never forget," King said.

Coach King has led the Wolves to national prominence during his initial 13 years as baseball coach at the nation's oldest junior college (established in 1901). Besides the 437 victories, two North Central Community College Conference championships and four Region

"The entire experience of traveling to Japan, spending time there and meeting new people is something I am sure that I will never forget."

JJC Athletic Director Wayne King

IV Division III titles to his credit. King guided JJC to the 1994 National Junior College Athletic Association Division III national championship in Jamestown, N.Y. That 1994 national championship team finished 46-11, the best-ever record in Joliet Junior College baseball history.

Joliet Junior College placed second at the 1995 NCAA Division III World Series in Batavia, N.Y., and was third in 1997.

King, a star catcher at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, where he earned All-American honors in the Mid-American Conference, has coached 16 All-America players while at Joliet Junior College.

He has been named the NAC Coach of the Year on three different occasions and was selected the 1994 NJCAA Division III Coach of the Year.

Coach King, an accomplished basketball player and near-scratch golfer, was selected the 1994 Coach of the Year by the American Baseball Coaches Association/Louisville Slugger Hit & Pitch organization.

King's 2000 team is ranked 11th in the NJCAA Division III preseason rankings. The 1999 Wolves finished 38-23, the third-most wins in school history, besides winning their fourth Region IV Division III crown in the last six seasons.

JJC Wolves softball 10-18

by Nikki Sheridan

Joliet Junior College Lady Wolves Softball Team is 10-18 after the April 9 game against Morton College. The Lady Wolves continued their regular season after their spring break trip. They played Lewis University JV on Wednesday, March 15.

Unfortunately, Lewis defeated Joliet, 2-1, 8-0. However, in game 1, pitcher Natalie Coleman struck out two. Lisa Gierich had two hits, including a double, and one RBI.

On Saturday, March 18, Joliet lost to St. Xavier Univ. JV 4-2, 4-6. The Wolves record dropped 0-12. In game 1, sophomore Stephanie Sharp homered and Lisa Gierich doubled in two runs. In game 2, Kristin Bols had three hits.

The following Wednesday, the Wolves lost the first game to Waunebuse CC, 0-4, but came back in the second for a victory of 4-3 over Waunebuse.

On Saturday, March 25, Moraine Valley defeated Joliet (13-2) the first game. But once again, Joliet came back to defeat Moraine in the

second game, 8-1. On Sunday, Joliet won both games against Marquette Univ., 8-6, 8-7. The Wolves had 29 hits that day. They scored four runs in the fifth and three in the sixth during the first game.

The Wolves won the first game against Robert Morris College (3-4) on March 30, but lost the second, 8-9. Saturday, April 1, the Wolves had two great wins against Prairie State College. The score for the first game was 14-4, and 26-8 the second. The Wolves hit 35 times that afternoon. On April 2, beat College of Lake County, 4-2, 9-1. Then on Tuesday, April 4, the Wolves lost to Harper College, 3-9, 9-13. In the first game, Tracy Phillips had three hits, while Lisa Gierich and George Symczak had two each. On Thursday, the women defeated Morton College 4-3, but then lost in game 2, 4-8.

Leading pitchers for the Lady Wolves are Jenny Sinkular (6-7) and Natalie Coleman (3-8). Lisa Gierich has the lead batting average of .400 for the team. She also leads with 20 RBIs and has eight doubles.

Mens Baseball getting a few wins

by Nikki Sheridan

The Joliet Junior College Men's Baseball Team has continued their season, playing a majority of the games for the season. Their record after playing Elgin Community College was 12-21 and 0-2 in the NAC conference.

On Tuesday, March 14, JJC had a nice win against Morton College 9-0. A.J. Pedersen pitched the initial five innings and did not allow a base hit as he struck out three. On March 15, the Wolves lost a close game to Waunebuse CC 11-9. Then, that Friday, the Wolves defeated Prairie State College 8-4.

On the weekend of the 17th, Joliet Junior College beat McHenry County College the first game 9-4, and lost the second 0-2. Tuesday, March 21, Joliet JC defeated Oakton CC 18-0 at home, and turned around on Wednesday to also defeat Lewis Univ. JV 9-8. Thursday, March 23, Joliet defeated Kankakee CC 5-4 with Andy Urbancic pitching for the Wolves. Saturday, the Wolves lost to Triton both games 7-6, 12-11, and had to play them again on Sunday. They lost 16-6, 8-3.

The Wolves played Moraine Valley CC both Wednesday and Thursday of the following week. On Wednesday, Joliet won 8-7, and Thursday, 5-4. On Thursday, Jason Vitis had the game-winning base hit. Eric Blaeser was the winning pitcher. Friday, March 31, Illinois Valley CC defeated JJC, 7-4.

Sunday, April 2, the Wolves lost to Black Hawk College the first game (3-4) and won the second, 4-3. JJC lost to Prairie State College on Tuesday, April 4, 4-9. On April 6, Joliet Junior College beat Elgin 12-10 the first game and then to, 5-6, the second.

Eric Blaeser has the lead batting average at .463, and Connor McGarr and Ryan Koerner tie for the most RBIs with 20.

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JJC hosts Cinco de Mayo celebration

by Lorraine Guerrero

The theme for this year's JJC Cinco de Mayo (May 5) events is: Exito: "Victoria atraves de la educacion" or "Victory through education."

These free events are being sponsored by the JJC Latinos Unidos Club. Their objective is to promote enrollment and retention of students in college.

The activity on Thursday, May 4, is a community-wide event to educate families on the importance of education and how to further their education, according to

Latinos Unidos Club Advisor Carol Hamilton.

This event will be held at the JJC Renaissance Center at 214 N. Dtrava St. in Joliet.

It will begin promptly at 5 p.m. with registration for a drawing, a bilingual parent financial aid session and a JJC programs and services display.

The event will also include singing (Angles de Puebla) by Angel Medina, and a performance by Mt. Carmel Folkloric Dance Group.

The event will end with an address from world-renown speak-

er Dr. Angelina Pedrosa.

"Dr. Pedrosa is a woman that has experienced many walks of life and is sure to be very motivational and an encouragement for students and their families," said Alicia Morales, Latinos Unidos Vice President.

Area high school students will be in attendance during events on May 5. Events include career workshops, scholarship and college searches, preparation for compass testing, campus and department tours and financial aid workshops. A transfer fair will also be held between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. The

day's events will conclude with Candi Gomez from radio station B-96 speaking.

"The Cinco de Mayo events are a way to open up opportunities for [students] that they didn't know existed," concluded Hamilton.

Shuttle buses will be available to carry people between the JJC City Center, Central High School, Santa Cruz and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. Registration is from 8:45 a.m. to 9:30. Additional questions should be directed to Alicia Morales (bilingual) in the JJC Financial Aid Department at (815) 280-2340.

New contract agreement reached

by Kaylee Van Hoose

On Wednesday, April 16, JJC's Board of Trustees ratified a three-year contract with the college's faculty union during its monthly board meeting.

Before casting their ratification, the Trustees were briefed on the terms of the contract by JJC President, J.D. Ross, as well as sev-

"This contract verifies both the faculty's and the administration's commitment to a common goal..."

-Ross

eral administrators that made up the college's negotiating team. The faculty will see an overall 5.5 percent increase in wages and benefits each year over the course of the contract, although individual salary increases will vary for each faculty member. It will primarily be based on the number of years the faculty member has acquired within the college.

Ross stated in an April 17 press release, "This contract veri-



Faculty vote on the new faculty contract.

photo taken by Shane Lindsay

fies both the faculty's and the administration's commitment to a common goal, providing the best educational experiences and opportunities possible for our students; that we were able to work together to develop the means for achieving this goal is a testament to the positive atmosphere and the spirit of collegiality that all of us who work at the college enjoy."

According to the release, a faculty ranking system, identifying

faculty members as Instructors, Associate Professors, and Professors, is also established by this contract.

However, all faculty salaries will be more competitive with the wages of faculty at other community colleges in northeastern Illinois due to the savings acquired through recent retirement of several high-salaried faculty members. Administrators on the negotiating team assure that this will not put

significant stress on the college's budget.

Perhaps, the most satisfying part of the contract for both sides, is the way the agreement was reached. The two parties reached agreement using the negotiating strategy known as Interest Based Bargaining (IBB) under the guidance and training of the Federal Negotiation and Conciliation Service. IBB allows both parties to discuss common interests and work together to reach a mutual agreement.

"In my view, the real measure of a contract is durability, and I expect this contract to endure long after many of us are gone."

-Lee

"Using IBB gave us perhaps the greatest benefit we could ever gain in a contract negotiation. It helped us build an enormous amount of trust and respect between faculty and administrators at the college," Tom Ryan, Vice President of Business Services and See "Contract" on page 4

College Bowl takes first place in state

by Heather Lawson

Joliet Junior College recently took first place in the 2000 College Bowl Spring Tournament. Team members included Michael Fletcher, Nick Rakes (captain), and newcomer Michael Heinzinger.

As with any competition, tensions were high. JJC's team coach, Bill Yarrow seemed confident his team would do well.

"We won last year, and it was a pretty significant win," Yarrow said. "We were very optimistic this time."

The state championships were held on April 14 at Richland Community College in Decatur. Schools in attendance were the community colleges of Waubesa, Kaskaskia, Illinois Central, Rend Lake and Lake County. JJC has made it to the championships for the past three years, coming in third in 1998 and first in 1999. Yarrow said that the people on the other teams knew that



College Bowl members Michael Fletcher, Nick Rakes, and Michael Heinzinger (not pictured) are state champions.

photo taken by Shane Lindsay

they were up for a challenge. "Knowing that JJC was the reigning champion, they knew they would have to try harder."

The local tournament was held

Moraine in second.

Yarrow seemed especially impressed with Heinzinger's performance. "He's a strong competitor. He answered many questions," said Yarrow.

Results were excellent. JJC greatly surpassed the scores of the opposing teams. The team was awarded first place with an outstanding score of 1,005 points and a record of 5-0.

Rend lake claimed second place with 565 points and a record of 4-1, closely following Rend Lake's score was Illinois Central with a total of 515 points.

In addition to JJC's victory, Rakes and Heinzinger were chosen as members of the state finals all-star team. This team consists of the five players who scored the most points in toss-up questions. Yarrow was very happy for these two students. He said that it was an honor for Heinzinger to be chosen, as this is his first year as a competitor.

Opinion

Turtle people need to come out of their shells

The final "Letters Make Words" — here it is. To many it's a blessing, no more talk of animal rights, feminism, straight edge, etc. I don't know exactly who or how many feel this relief, however, because all my criticism has been second-hand.

I write about the things I do because I want them to be considered, agreed with, argued against... anything. I've had a few people say encouraging things to me, but I've had more pass along complaints from others. I expected backlash, that's what controversy usually causes, but I expected it to come first-hand rather than via a classmate or a friend of a friend. I think this says something about ourselves — we're turtle people. We are set in our ways, against all variations or suggestions on our lifestyles. We are also, however,

Letters Make Words

by Natalie Mau



unlike their parents as possible. If you want a 20-year-old so-

world a shiny, happy place. I do believe, however, in saying what I think, making people uncomfortable, making them love me or hate me. It's all the same to me, as long as you're thinking of what I say. I don't care what you're thinking of me.

Still, smile, try not to breathe — maybe the rebellion won't see you. Prasadandi, an often-quoted band, once said, "The very system I oppose affords me the luxury of biting the hand that feeds. But that's exactly why privileged [folks] like me should feel obliged to whine and kick and scream — until everyone has everything they need."

I carry that idea with me, and perhaps it's annoyed you or made you mad, or maybe you smiled to yourself in agreement. Either way, I win!

afraid of having to defend our views. We creep back into our shells, popping out occasionally to give the "evil eye" to free thinkers or to make a snide comment to someone we're sure will either agree with or ignore us — either way we're safe.

I've had productive conversations in the past with people who disagree with me about things — it's beneficial to all involved as it either strengthens your argument or opens you up to new ideas. There was a time in my life, and this is hard for me to admit, when I ate

peanut butter and bacon sandwiches. I thought feminism was dead. I wondered if there was more to life than watching my friends get drunk and pass out. It took butting heads with people I thought were totally ridiculous — vegetarians, feminists, and straight edge kids — to get me thinking. I realized that not everything I grew up believing was true in fact. I stopped blindly accepting things just because it was easy.

College-aged people are notorious for their radical ideas, doing everything in their power to be as

called Socialists do you know who live comfortably in their parents' homes? Does your friend complain about "the system" and then not vote? Perhaps you find homelessness and chronic hunger shameful and yet can't find the time or extra few quarters to help someone out. All of these are good intentions not executed correctly. Our radicalness is often overpowered by our love of convenience and our drive to maintain the status quo.

No, I don't believe my little column in this community college newspaper is going to make the

Journalists' validation comes from within

By Bob Marcink

Another year is coming to a close at the Blazer, so it's time for me to address you one more time before we all head off to beaches, baseball games and picnics with people we seem to appreciate much more when we don't have four walls blocking our escape.

As the adviser to the newspaper for the past three years, this final column has become my own little tradition. As I final the idea — this is, after all, the student newspaper, not the adviser's newspaper — but I have found that the annual column gives me an opportunity to not only reflect on a year gone by, but to also recognize some of the people who have worked so hard to bring this publication to you.

Putting together a newspaper is difficult, often tedious, work that in many ways is thankless. When you do a good job, few people take the time to remark upon your achievement. That's human nature. When you do a bad job, not only do you know it, but people often feel

it's their duty to remind you of it. Again, human nature.

As an editor and reporter and journalism educator for the past 20 years, I have had to learn that lesson on the job. As a result, I have developed that hard, barnacled edge that you need to survive as a journalist. As a working journalist, I have learned to take joy in my own achievements, even if I am the only one who recognizes them at any given moment. But young journalists still have that lesson to learn, and that is what I want to talk about today.

The students who work so very hard to produce this publication every year often remark that they rarely receive feedback. "Nobody cares about what we do," they'll say. "Nobody reads the newspaper, anyway." One of my roles is to try to convince them that what they do is important, that people do read the Blazer, that what they do does make a difference on campus. Sometimes I'm successful; sometimes I'm not. I can't expect them to simply take my word for something that took me

years to learn as a professional. But try. It's part of my job.

It's difficult for students who are struggling to keep up in class while working on the side to pay for their education to see the importance of writing a story about a new faculty contract or an upcoming college fair. When no one overtly responds to a story, that feeling is reinforced. Writers and editors for school newspapers — any newspaper — often find themselves wondering if they do, indeed, make a difference. The answer is a resounding YES.

That difference may not be realized in a daily pat on the back or an "attaboy" every time the newspaper hits the stands. It may not be realized in a flood of letters to the editor supporting or criticizing the newspaper's efforts to enlighten. It may not even be realized in a knowing nod from the adviser, who can sometimes retreat into his life too far to see that a knowing nod can go a long way. But the evidence is there:

When the halls are crowded during a job fair — evidence: when students turn out for a student government election — evidence: when an administrator nods in recognition in the hallway — evidence: when you walk down the hall and see newspapers opened and lying flat on tables — evidence: when people get mad because their story did not run — evidence: when people get mad because their story did — evidence.

But the real evidence, the evidence that takes you from story to story and issue to issue, is not

found in the external world. It is found within. True as it may sound, the journalist must look first to her or himself for affirmation. Have I done my best on this story? Have I provided information that is valuable or entertaining or educational to the reader? Have I served my readers, whether there are two of them or 10,000 of them? As a journalist, if you can answer these questions with another resounding YES, you have done your job, and you can go to sleep that night knowing that you have contributed your fair share. The rest, the backslaps and awards and "attaboy"s, are nothing but the sweets that follow the meal. A temporary joy to the palate, but not all that nourishing.

With that in mind, I want to recognize some of the key staff members who made this year's publication possible, some of whom may wonder at times if their efforts were appreciated. First, I'd like to commend co-editors Stephanie Busbey and Natalie Mau for taking on the responsibility of putting out a tri-weekly newspaper. Stephanie, who is not even a journalism major, and Natalie, who came in as a mid-year and injected new life into the publication, put in long hours and sacrificed much of their off-time to make the newspaper a success. Both will head to new schools in the fall to complete their degrees, and I wish them the luck I doubt they'll need.

Others who are leaving us are Mark Malone, our award-winning layout artist and sports writer; Matt Furlane, who does our web page

and has taken over for Mark as the new layout man; and Nikki Sheridan, who took over as sports editor in January even though she had never written sports. They will be missed. (Matt may return in the fall, but his return is not a certainty.)

Lorraine Guerrero deserves kudos for her work as advertising manager and writer. She should be back in the fall, as should writers Amy Lakeberg, Michelle Tarrant and Kaylee Van Hoose. All were valuable members of the staff this year, and should step into larger roles in the fall.

Matt Packard, the Blazer's CD reviewer, will also be back in the fall. Matt's reviews have been recognized by both readers and contest judges as some of the best in the region. And finally, two key members of the staff who graduated in December should also be remembered: Carole Sharwarke, news editor, and Mike Oliveri, sports editor, brought maturity and talent to the newspaper, and they have already been missed.

Well, that should do it for this year. I hope you have enjoyed the Blazer these past eight months, and I hope you will continue to be a reader in the fall. I will be back, assuming I don't hit the lottery or step in front of a truck, and I look forward to seeing you reading the newspaper at your little table somewhere in the hallways of JJC. And, if you get a chance — if the urge strikes you — let the Blazer staff know what you think about their work once in a while. I only have so many knowing nods in me.

Blazer Staff

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Co-Editor
Natalie Mau
Sports Editor
Nikki Sheridan

Production Manager
Matt Furlane
Ad Director
Lorraine Guerrero
Photo Editor
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Opinion

Top ten must-haves for a hot summer

by Lorraine Guerrero

Top Ten Summer Essentials:
1. Sunscreen, a bottle of fake bake (tan in a bottle for about \$7 at any drug store)

2. Sunglasses — make sure they provide 100 percent UV protection.

3. A new haircut to get rid of any split ends, and of course to update your look. Oh, and don't forget a deep conditioning treatment!

4. A pedicure because you don't want unsightly feet in all those open-toed sandals.

5. A halter or an open back shirt with a keyhole front.

6. A sweet looking swimsuit—don't skip! Remember, a swimsuit is a very important investment and paying up to \$100 is not in excess, in fact for many it's a bargain (o.k., not



Vanity for Oxyamorons

by Lorraine Guerrero

me, but for many)

7. Hot pants, a.k.a. Daisy Dukes, are back and HOTTER than ever.

8. White pants to go with all those bright colors you're wearing.
9. A good pair of tennis shoes — preferably white canvas to go with the capris.

10. Last but not least, actually kind of important, the start of a season is a good time to replace your makeup; anything light and shimmering is good for summer time bliss.

Contempo Casuals offers all

the summer clothing and accessories you may need, from the polka-dotted halters to the hot pants. If you are going to forego all the new clothes, and just become a beach bum, you can find your one and only essential: the swimsuit-at Gadzooks. They house the brightest, the cutest and trendiest swimsuits of the season. If you're looking for the best brand name swimwear, go to Carson's.

As far as the haircuts go, The Hair Cutters on Plainfield Road does a good job and you can get your hair washed, a conditioning

deep treatment, and a cut and blow-dry for only \$19.

"I absolutely love A Cut Above Hair Studio. They do a wonderful job," said Tricia Spalla, a client.

Although the prices are a little higher, they have many different services besides just cutting hair. They also do pedicures, manicures, and offer spa treatments as well.

The best place to find the cutest sandals to go along with those newly manicured feet is Parade of Shoes. They always have the cutest styles at a bargain.

If you're still unsure of what kind of makeup to buy, one thing that is really hot right now is Maybeline Cool Wear eye shadow. The eye shadow line consists of frosty whites, pinks, greens and blues. The shadows are selling out the second some drugstores are getting them, according to one Walgreens makeup consultant. Of course, if you want some expert consultation, you can always go to the very helpful people at the Clinique makeup counter inside Marshall Fields.

Well, whatever you decide to do this summer, whether it is being a beach bum, or working in an office as an intern, remember to treat yourself at least a few times this summer. Check out Kreamy Delight on Broadway, I swear the turtle sundae there do wonders for your complexion, well — they taste good at least.

EDITORIAL

Future graduating classes: your experience at JJC is what you make of it. In addition to the groups gathered on the bridge or con-course playing cards, there are many extracurricular activities offered at JJC.

There are 36 different clubs run by students and advisors, an active student government, men's and women's intramural sports programs, a college bowl team, a student newspaper, a literary magazine and a great number of fine and performing arts opportunities.

Classes range from History of Western Civilization to Swimming.

If there is something lacking, you have the power to change that. Many students claim they don't have time to get involved in any student activities. They are busy with classes, work and maybe a family.

However, a great number of students involved in clubs on campus, the newspaper or on the Student Alliance have similar responsibilities. The difference is that they make time to get

involved.

The commonly spoken phrase, "no one cares," just doesn't apply when there are so many students actively involved at JJC.

Of course, not everyone agrees with the positive level of involvement at JJC.

"Student involvement at JJC is less than desirable. I feel that too many students do not care what goes on around them other than the possibility of getting drunk," said Student Alliance member Jeffrey E. Consten.

However, Student Alliance member Tim Daley feels the student involvement at JJC is positive.

"Student involvement at JJC is exceptional, considering the commuter role the students are required to take."

Pattie Fine, director of student services and activities, shares her experience with student involvement: "When I first accepted [my position] a little over three years ago, there was no student government and the club council was run by staff advisors. Some folks told me that JJC students didn't care that they were apathetic. I didn't believe that then and I don't believe it now."

"The involvement level isn't perfect, there's always room for improvement, but the opportunities are there and if something's missing, we can work together to create it," added Fine.

There are a number of leadership roles you can take, in any of the clubs, on the newspaper, or on the Student Alliance, JJC's student

government.

Applications for 2000-2001 Student Alliance are now available in the OSSA, D-1010. The first deadline is May 9 for interviews and selections made in May, and another deadline will be made in the fall for interviews and selections. There are flyers all over school with times, days and locations of meetings for all of the clubs. Look for meeting times and dates for the Blazer in the fall on the bulletin board outside of the cyber cafe.

If you truly do not have the time to take on a leadership role, don't forget that your opinions, wants and needs are still very important. The people who are leaders at JJC need to know about your concerns. You can do this by talking to any club member or Student Alliance member, writing a letter or e-mail to a member of Student Alliance, writing a Letter to the Editor to the Blazer, or calling the Blazer.

Your opinion matters!

Question of the Issue

"What do you think will be the biggest surprise of the new millennium?"



"A paperless office. I'm all for it."
Lewis Miller, sophomore



"A cure for cancer. I think it will happen by 2013."
John Newsome, freshman



"A thinking computer. I can imagine a time when computers will control everything. Probably by 2300. But the Luddites will revolt."
Mike Fleischer, sophomore



"Cloning of humans by 2050."
Jessica Tomis, sophomore



"A woman president by 2020. She would take care of ever-thing"
Maureen Molony, sophomore



"Molly Ringwald's next movie. She hasn't done one in a while."
Mike Dunn, sophomore

Letter to the editor

Dear Editor,
I read Briane L. Carter's letter to the editor with interest. I agree with her that students should get involved in budgeting student activity money and should complain when they're not happy. Personally, I paid \$52 this semester due to the technology fee and I induced improvement in the classes I am taking. Also, I don't use either the e-mail or Internet services. Somehow it seems to me, there should be more equitable ways to buy and update JJC's technology, perhaps by tying higher costs to the courses that use the

technology.

That athletics should get the lion's share of the student service fee does seem questionable. However, deciding simply on a per-capita basis is probably too simple. To some extent, student activities get what they want and need to operate, and how many people profit directly from the operation isn't easy to calculate. A comprehensive community college serves many constituencies. The best budget is one that leads to a more diverse extra-curricular and curricular institution.

Sincerely,
John Stobert

The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters. Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters

so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and the sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through interoffice or regular mail, or drop

them off at the Blazer office at 6-1009

Blazer

1215 Hubolt Road

Joliet, Illinois 60431

Email: blazer@jcc.cc.il.us

News

Performing arts achievement month at JJC

by Michelle Tarrant

The month of May will be an exciting and stimulating time, with many scheduled events being put on by the JJC Fine Arts Department.

The JJC Jazz Band will hold its annual Spring Jazz Concert this year on Friday, May 5, at 7:30 p.m. The Plainfield High School Jazz band is scheduled to perform along

with the JJC Jazz Band, with musical selections such as "Norwegian Wood," "Hay Bumer" and even a piece entitled "I-80 Shuffle."

Student soloists to perform at the show include Marty Kelas of Oak Park, Dan Moffett of Orland Park, Melinda Allen of Morris, Adam Boese of Joliet and Jamie Mock of Bolingbrook.

The concert is open to the public and will be held in the Fine Arts

Theater at JJC. Admission prices are \$3 for adults, \$2 for students and seniors, and \$1 for all JJC faculty and staff.

Also on hand this month will be the JJC Chamber Singers, who will be holding the eighth annual "Music...a Taste" on Saturday, May 6, at 7 p.m. at the main campus.

The concert will feature the music of well-known composers,

and the JJC Jazz Combo will entertain guests.

Those in attendance will also be sampling a selection of desserts made by the Culinary Arts Department at JJC.

Admission is \$8 and proceeds will benefit the Music Scholarship Fund. Reservations are being taken by phone at (815) 280-2223.

Another event scheduled to take place this month is the Recent

Works by Jim Dugdale Exhibition being displayed in the Laura A. Sprague Art Gallery. This exhibit is a one-person show by Dugdale, a JJC ceramics instructor, who will be retiring after 30 years of service. The exhibit will run through May 12.

For more information on events during Fine Arts Month at JJC, just call the Arts Line at (815) 275-9020 extension ARTS.

Continued from page 1

Teacher contracts

a member of the negotiating team, commented in the press release.

A Faculty Development Committee will also be established as a result of the agreement and all new faculty will go through a mandated, extensive faculty orientation program. Even after a faculty member has attained tenure, several measures will be established to provide faculty members with training and research opportunities, and to review teaching performance on a regular and ongoing

basis. "We believe our efforts resulted in an agreement that is fair for the college and the faculty," said Dr. Michael Lee, president of the faculty union.

"In my view, the real measure of a contract is durability, and I expect this contract to endure long after many of us are gone. It's a good agreement that probably could not have been reached with traditional bargaining," Lee concluded.

For those who are leaving us, congratulations.
For those who thought they were leaving us but aren't,
better luck next time.

Top Choice.

The results are in! Once again, Saint Xavier University is ranked in *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the Top Tier Regional Universities in the Midwest and among the Best Values in the Midwest. It's no contest: Chicago's oldest Catholic university has a proven record and is ready for the challenges of the future. So this year, and every year, elect Saint Xavier University as your primary choice for quality education!



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News

High school students flock to journalism workshop

by Lorraine Guerrero

The first annual Joliet Junior College High School Journalism workshop, was held at main campus on April 7. The workshop was hosted by Bob Marcink, JJC Journalism Instructor and Blazer Advisor. "I am very pleased about the turnout considering it was the first time we held a journalism workshop here at the college, and because of the success of the workshop, we intend to make it an annual event," said Marcink.

The workshop included a panel discussion with several prominent regional journalists. The panel discussion included the violent incident in Decatur that drew national attention and included a general discussion of the decision-making process in the newsroom.

The panel members included Lee Trigg, managing editor of the Herald News, Michael J. Waters,



Local high school students react to a panel discussion

managing editor of the Daily Southtown, Andrea Durlas, reporter for WGN Radio, as well as WGN TV and Chicago land

TV (CLTV); Ben Bradley, reporter for CLTV; and Ken O'Brien, freelance journalist.

The workshop breakout session topics included Radio, by "Dr" Dave Enway from W C C Q .

Photography. Print with a focus on the Herald News Teen Website/Teen page, which was lead by Jan Larsen, regional editor, and Greg Matthews also of the Herald

News, Ethics, by Bob Marcink, and Video Production by Geoffrey Rusch, Christopher Harvey, JJC Media Department.

Students who decided to bring their school newspapers in were also able to get the newspaper professionally critiqued by Bob Marcink, Jan Larsen and Liz Vivanco, former JJC editor and contributing writer for El Conquistador.

"The professionals were all very good and we received a lot of good feedback from the students and advisors," said Bob Marcink.

More than 120 students from seven area schools attended the event including Gardner-South Wilmington High School, Joliet Township Central High school, Joliet West High School, Lincoln Way High School, Newark Community High School, Plainfield High School, and Peotone High School.

photo taken by Shane Lindsay

Don't Be Afraid. . .

by Ryan Ruffatti



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have a chance to win dinner for two at Flat Top Grill or Ranalli's, tickets for two to Blue Man Group, and other great prizes! To take advantage of a free InCard membership, send a self addressed, stamped envelope and the used Metra Weekend Pass to InCard at P.O. Box 211, Glenview, IL 60022 or call 847-673-3703 or visit the web site at InCard.com. For Metra schedule information call 836-7000, city or suburbs, or visit metrarail.com.



and 1000's of others...

Blazer wins several awards and certificates

by Lorraine Guerrero

The Blazer came away from the recent Illinois Community College Journalism Association newspaper contest with two news-

paper-wide awards and several individual merit certificates.

The Blazer finished second in Overall Excellence in the ICCJA contest for newspapers that publish

tri-weekly and monthly. The award marks the third year in a row the newspaper has finished in the top two in the overall category, having finished first in both 1998 and

1999.

Top honors this year went to the Courier of South Suburban College. The Blazer also took second place in Merit Awards for tri-weeklies and monthlies for the third straight year. Merit Awards are based on points earned for individual merit certificates presented in a variety of categories. The Apache of Illinois Valley Community College earned the most points for Merit Awards.

Blazer winners this year included:

*Mike Oliveri, first place in sports news; first place in opinion;

and second place in sports feature;

*Matt Packard, first place and second place for music reviews;

*Mark Malone, third place for sports feature;

*Shane Lindsay, third place for photo spread; and

*Ryan Ruffatti, third place for cartoons.

In the weeklies and bi-weeklies category, the Courier of College of Dupage took top honors in both the Overall Excellence category and in the Merit Awards. The Courier was followed in both categories by the Glacier of Moraine Valley Community College.



Free on-line resume

The JJC Career Planning and Placement Office offers a way to place resume information on a password protected Internet site for area employers to see. Students and district residents are eligible for this no-cost service.

Beginning Monday, April 24, the Candidate Profile System of the already existing Collegiate Employment Network (CEN) will be in operation. In order for job seekers to get into the system, individuals must sign an Information Release form, available at the Career Planning and Placement Office, D-1010, Student Center. They will be given a password, which will allow them to post their Candidate Profile information and also access the hundreds of employer-placed job postings.

Those looking for part-time, full-time and seasonal jobs will find the CEN a help in their job search.

The Collegiate Employment Network (CEN) is a 3-year-old Internet job listing site shared by 11 northeastern Illinois community

colleges and maintained by the Daily Herald News suburban newspaper company.

JJC was an early member of this award-winning group and has been very active in promoting the addition of the Candidate Management System.

With this free enhancement both employers recruiting to fill jobs and people looking for jobs have access to each others' information. With the Candidate Management System, CEN becomes a state-of-the-art job posting/resume posting Internet site.

With input from the member colleges, expertise and support from the Daily Herald Information Systems staff and the participation of employers interested in hiring for this area of Illinois, our students and district residents have the highest quality system available.

The Career Planning and Placement Office invites students and district residents to get on CEN and the new Candidate Profile System. Call them at 815-280-2756 for more information.

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Features

Indy wrestling worth price of ticket

by Natalie Mau

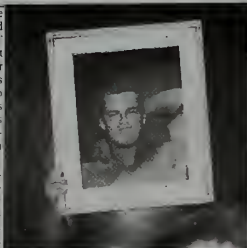
If an instruction manual for writing reviews exists, one of the first lessons is probably "Do not begin a review by saying you do not like the very nature of whatever it is you're reviewing." I'm going to disregard this rule, however, because I think the fact that I don't like wrestling in the least bit says something about the wrestling event I attended in early April.

Steel Domain Championship Wrestling made its debut at the Joliet Armory and I was there, along with over 300 other wrestling and non-wrestling fans. The SDCW event was the latest of many independent-wrestling promotions I have paid to see, as I have several acquaintances who wrestle professionally. Before this show, however, I have always gone home disappointed. Perhaps TV wrestling is to blame, with its 300-pound men, each with some sort of twisted story about why they're wrestling, its pyrotechnics and all around Vegas-style showiness. I'd walk in expecting muscle-bound men, grabbing microphones and screaming catch phrases; I'd walk out with images of skinny, pale guy-next-door types, with no charisma and very little skill.

The debut of SDCW made me re-think my notions of independent wrestling, however. First of all, the wrestlers were big, obviously well trained, and disciplined. They were very professional; unlike other events during which the language gets so bad some parents grab their kids and walk out. The Armory appeared to be full of comic book characters come to life, and the crowd ate them up. It was a great setting for wrestling, the view was ideal from all seats, and there were

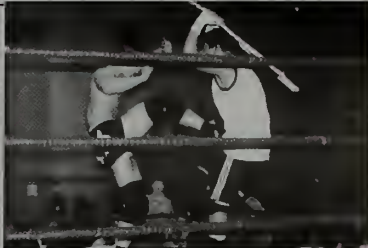
even separate entrances for "good guys" and "bad guys." Story lines were just forming, as it was their first show, but it was pretty obvious who was good and who was bad—some wrestlers were friendly and others were just plain mean. "Scrap Iron," Adam Pearce, in fact, had some mean things to say about my rainbow-colored hair. Pearce was among quite a few other big names in Indy wrestling: Danny Dominion, Ace Steel, and CM Punk, to name a few. Other up-and-coming stars included Eric Priest, Black Dagger, Rikki Noga and Dino Bambino.

Indy shows are cool because



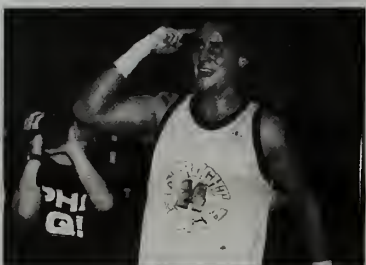
How does Danny Dominion fit his head in the frame? photo taken by Natalie Mau

fans can get up close and personal with the wrestlers and it's only a few bucks, as opposed to the \$30 one may drop at a World Championship Wrestling or World



CM Punk invites his opponent to take a seat.

photo taken by Natalie Mau anti-wrestling friends of mine had to admit it was a good time and we all agreed to be there May 13 for the next show at the Armory. For pictures, biographies, and info on how to be a wrestler, check out www.steeldomainwrestling.com.



CM Punk appeals to the ref for being illegally hit

photo taken by Natalie Mau

Wrestling Federation event. It's a great way to see future stars of wrestling when they're establishing themselves. Pearce, Dominion and Steel for example, have all worked for WCX in Florida and the WWE. Pearce has been negotiating with the WCW for several months, and Steel and Dominion each have try-outs with Extreme Championship Wrestling.

Most of the elements that made me think Indy wrestling was totally low-class and boring were obliterated here. The fact that alcohol was served may account for the only rowdiness I witnessed—all night. Between that and the occasional foul-mouthed 12-year-old kid, though, it wasn't a hostile environment. Highlights of the night, according to one fan on CM Punk's Internet message board, included Punk's spill into the crowd, brawling outside of the ring and the variety of old school and new-school sports-entertainment techniques. Even the most devout

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Web review

Surf net during bad weather for odd and funny

by Natalie Mau

The semester draws to a close, papers are written, finals taken and passed. Normally this means it's time to run around outside, get a base tan and get the pool ready for summer. The weather, however, does not always cooperate, forcing us to stay indoors with old reliable—the Internet. No worries; there are plenty of fun ways to kill

time online.

Not quite ready to stop learning? Try a course in sociology...of Smurf! J. Marc Schmidt has little blue issues, and at his site, www.geocities.com/Hollywood/Cinema/3117/sociosmurf2.html, you can read "Socio-Political Themes in the Smurfs." Schmidt discusses the Smurf village as a Marxist Utopia. Papa Smurf representing Karl Marx, of course. Perhaps the

most remarkable discussion is that of Feminism and the Smurfs, where Smurfette's situation is far from smurfy.

Another hilarious, but less educational, site is www.TheOnion.com. The self-proclaimed nation's finest news source parodies not only the news media but also life itself. Features like "Apple employee fired for thinking different" and "Stephen Hawking

builds robotic exoskeleton" grace the homepage, an electronic version of the paper's front page. The site archives the newspaper's past features and columns. Look for "Where does bacon come from?" in the kid's section and "Ask A Wiccan" in the editorials. An ever-growing collection of essays, T-shirts, stickers and more, www.Unamerican.com offers "quality rebellion at affordable prices." Sassy statements like "read banned books" and "my parents are nuts" cost only \$1 in sticker form and earn massive punk rock points.

Speaking of revolutionary, this is the story of the guy-next-door going cyber. At <http://members.tripod.com/trustno1x815/> one may frolic through the hilarity of JJC student Dan Arelano. He pokes fun at straight edge hardcore punk (even though his band fits that description) and at pretty much anything else he can think of. The subject matter and language are a bit rough at times, and this site is recommended to mature yet immature audiences.

What list of raunchy-but-funny websites would be complete without a mention of www.GeorgeCarlin.com? Right off the bat he warns cyber surfers about his language, and if you make it through the sensitivity screening you'll find four dates, six of his best work and tidbits of

the genius that has made Carlin the infamous come he is today.

This review concludes with the coolest waste of time ever, www.dflm.com. This is the homepage for the Digital Film Festival. Here users can make shockwave flash movies and screen savers. The homemade movies are goofy, fun and only the beginning of interesting features at this site. Viewers can also screen digital films, read about the best computer animators around and perhaps even nab an internship in digital art.

To all those who have deemed the World Wide Web a huge waste of time, you're wonderfully right! For all the helpful, useful features it offers, the WWW remains primarily a source of entertainment. It's virtually free, always available and the wave of the future; so log



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Horoscopes

by Amy Lakeberg

Taurus (April 21 to May 20): This month will bring about new changes for you. You have established a good position in your school or job. Do not let this fall behind you. Keep up the good work.

Gemini (May 21 to June 21): Start studying for final exams now. This will help you prepared and up-to-date with what is happening next. Your grades will continue to increase if you keep up with the studies.

Cancer (June 22 to July 21): Taking chances is what this month is all about. Don't let something good slip away from you; if it's your turn to finally declare your independence. The things in your life may revolve around a certain someone, but for you, that's okay.

Leo (July 23 to Aug. 22): The pressure you have had with school, homework and work is really getting to you this month. Don't let it wear you down. People are not to get you. They are actually willing to lend a helping hand.

Virgo (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): The good things in life are really knocking on the door of opportunity right now. Continue on with any investments that you have recently made. Toward the beginning of May, you will finally receive the relief and relaxation you deserve.

Libra (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Keep a wary eye on the choices you will make this month. Don't overdo it — let yourself have a little fun, with caution. If you surprise anyone this month, don't let it get to them. They may take things the wrong way. Otherwise, everything else is working out beautifully for you.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): You are very lucky this month. While all your friends are studying for their exams and writing their last papers, you have everything finished already. Thanks to your "practice makes perfect" attitude you will continue on to success.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Life will not pass you by this month. If you get a grip on reality and yourself, you will see things how they really are. You are granted the wish that you most wanted this month. It might not be what you thought.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): So you thought looks don't always deceive, but they were wrong. It's okay. Everyone has been deceived by someone or something that they have liked. It's not out of the ordinary for you to feel bad for it, but don't let it ruin the rest of your month.

Aquarius (Feb. 19 to Feb. 18): Be prepared to run into someone that you recently have met. Take action into your own hands; do what you think is right. Follow your insights and don't look back. Surprises are coming your way.

Pisces (Feb. 19 to March 20): Certain people are of major importance to you this month. Don't worry that things may not go their way; it does look hopeful toward the end of the month. People may persuade you to do things their way, but if you successfully complete them yourself, you will feel more proud.

Aries (March 21 to April 20): The past position you have taken is not what you may want to be. If you talk it over nicely with that certain someone, you will feel better about it in the end. Don't try to hurt their feelings because of the bitterness you held onto in the past; try to make a new path for yourself.

Sports

Men's Baseball approaches .500

by Nikki Sheridan

As the season winds down, the JJC baseball team's record after Saturday, April 22, was 21-27 and 5-7 in the N4C. The Wolves had been busy the whole week with the game against college of DuPage the Saturday before.

The Wolves played a double header on April 15. DuPage defeated JJC 5-4 the first game, but the

Wolves came back to win the second 8-4. Pitcher Pat Molinari captured the victory for JJC. During the seven innings he pitched, Molinari struck out eight and allowed six hits. Conor McGarr and Eric Waxweiler each had RBIs.

The Sunday after, the Wolves faced DuPage for a second time. This time, JJC defeated DuPage 4-1 the first game and 3-2 the second. The Wolves came on strong as

freshman pitcher Matt Zwolinski threw a three-hitter with six strikeouts and one walk. In game two, Waxweiler singled and tripled, and Jason Vitus doubled.

After a day off, the Wolves defeated Highland Community College on Tuesday, April 18. Tripp Simmons pitched, allowing only one hit with two strikeouts and two walks during the seven-inning game. Sophomore Andy Urbancie hit two triples and a double, and drove in two runs. The score for the game was 5-0. In game two, Brian McDonald, Tom Fabek, Mike Lorenz and Waxweiler all drove in runs for JJC making the score 4-3.

Friday, April 21, the Wolves played a double header against Rock Valley. The scores were 4-2, 3-2. Rock Valley, in game one, Urbancie had three hits and Dave Simmons had a two-run homerun. In game two, Molinari struck out 11. Simmons had two hits while John Caruso had an RBI hit.



The JJC baseball team practices inside

photo taken by Lorraine Guerrero

On April 22, the Wolves played Rock Valley for the second time that weekend. Pitchers Brian Ricketts and Tripp Simmons helped the Wolves to the conference sweep. Urbancie hit his team-best fifth home run of the season, and Derek Gardner had an RBI triple. McGarr had a two-run single, while Vitus had an RBI. The score was JJC 6, Rock Valley 2. In game two, McGarr and McDonald each had two hits. Fabek drove in a

run. On the weekend of May 5, the team will hold the Division III Regionals at JJC. If the Wolves advance, the team will travel to Ohio for the regional districts on Thursday and Friday.

If JJC comes out on top, they will advance to the NJCAA Division III World Series on May 20-26. The World Series is held in Batavia, N.Y.

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Commentary

Spartans win, like I said

The NCAA Tournament came to a close on Monday, April 3, just as I said it would back in November with the Michigan State Spartans hoisting the national championship trophy. Never mind that neither of my other picks,

Duke, Ohio State and St. John's, made it to the Final Four. If anyone actually picked Florida, Wisconsin, and North Carolina, I would like to shake their hand.

The Wisconsin Badgers made their improbable run by merely

defeating such giants as Arizona, LSU and Purdue in their regional. I saw this team play Illinois back in January and I would have laughed in anyone's face then who said that the Badgers would be in the Final Four.

Same for the North Carolina Tarheels. They struggled all season before finally putting a run together. Like Wisconsin, some people questioned whether Carolina even should have been invited to the tournament. The reason? Both Wisconsin and North Carolina came into the NCAA's finals with 13 losses, but they proved everyone wrong.

The Florida Gators were a team I thought could reach the Sweet Sixteen if everything went right. They made everyone take notice when they knocked off top-seeded Duke in the round of sixteen. They kept beating everyone until they hit a wall known as Michigan State in the Finals.

The Spartans were simply not going to lose. The pain of falling to Duke in the National Semifinals last season stuck with them throughout the year. Seniors Mateen Cleaves, Charlie Bell and Morris Peterson refused to lose. Many people questioned this team when they lost at home to Indiana late in the season, but they regrouped and were just unbelievable in the post season.

I do not know if next season can live up to the excitement and surprises that this season brought. Wisconsin brings almost everyone back next year, so look for them to be tough. The same is true with Florida. I think that Duke and Illinois will be among the nation's elite next year, too. Both are young teams with tremendous recruiting classes joining their already talented rosters next fall.

Wisconsin and North Carolina messed up everyone's office pool this year, but that really is what makes college basketball so great. The fact that everyone that makes the tournament has a chance creates great excitement. Hopefully, that continues far into the future.

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Sports

Athletes score high in game and in classroom

by Nikki Sberdan

The JJC sophomore athletes not only have talent in the sports they participate in, but many also excel in their studies. Six JJC athletes have shown dedication in their sport as well as in the classroom.

In ascending order of grade point average, the six over-achieving student athletes include women's basketball player Mary McNair, volleyball player Jodi

Keutmen, football player Jeremy Hajek, team member Sara Spizio, baseball player Wesley Anderson and baseball player Jake Prince.

McNair first began her basketball career at Joliet Township High School. She played at JJC for two years and is now planning to finish her education and continue her basketball career at University of St. Francis in Joliet.

Although McNair is currently undecided on a major, she says

"JJC has been a good start" for her. Her grade point average is currently 3.0.

Keutmen will leave JJC with a GPA of 3.1 and attend the University of Dubuque in Iowa. Hajek has decided to continue his education at the DeVry Institute of Technology, and will leave JJC with an overall GPA of 3.3.

Along with Hajek, Coal City graduate and captain of the spirit team Spizio has earned a 3.3 GPA at JJC. She plans to study early

childhood education and speech communication at Illinois State University.

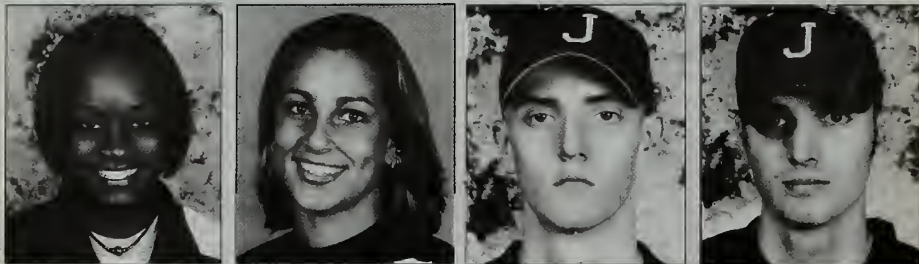
"My two years at JJC have served as the stepping stone to whatever the future holds for me," comments Spizio.

The top two sophomore athletes come from Minooka and play baseball for JJC. Anderson has played here for two years. With a GPA of 3.6 he plans to attend either University of Illinois or Northern Illinois University and pursue a

degree in business administration.

Like Anderson, top sophomore athlete Prince plans to major in business administration. With plans to attend University of Illinois, he says, "I've glad I came here. It has been a good experience and prepared me for U of I."

It appears each sophomore student athlete has plans to transfer to another institute, college or university after their time at JJC. Best wishes go with them into the future.



The high-scoring athletes are, from left to right, Mary McNair, Jodi Keutmen, Wesley Anderson, and Jake Prince. Not pictured are Jeremy Hajek and Sara Spizio.

photos courtesy of Athletic Department

Athletic violence not beyond the law

Breaking the law in sports is synonymous to living outside the lines of the public's law.

I say no more. Shooting a basketball or throwing a baseball 90 mph does not make it all right to break the law.

If any normal man was not happy with a decision at work or with a co-worker who he just did not get along with, he could not go up and punch the person. He would be fired from his job and arrested. Good luck in the future trying to find a job with that on his record.

Over the last few years we have seen how sports allows everything to be dealt with as if sports players live in a separate society.

Mike Tyson bites Evander Holyfield's ear off and what does he receive for his actions? A one-year suspension and \$27 million. Boxing is the most violent sport out there, but when parts of your body start being ripped off, that is where the line is drawn. The law should have arrested him and placed the straight-jacket on him for life.

In baseball, one of the more selfish acts is when college player Anthony Molina, who was standing in the warm-up deck, was hit in the eye by a fastball from Ben

Just Talkin' Sports

by Tony Ciampa

Christensen. Christensen's reason—he thought that Molina was hitting signs to a baserunner. Molina now has permanent eye damage.

Instead of the leagues in baseball deciding to ban this player for his violent ways, he was drafted by the Chicago Cubs in the first round. One of the more violent acts in baseball was the choking of a coach by Latrell Sprewell. He was only suspended for a year and then traded by his former team to the New York Knicks. After a year of playing for the Knicks, they offered him a multi-million dollar contract.

My plea is, for the future of sports, to involve the use of the law in keeping sports as an activity rather than a violent outlet.

Sports do bring out the drive to be a winner, but it does not mean you should use violence to do it. These players should not be placed in jail for their offenses, but they

should be treated within the same jurisdiction as any other man.

Suspending a player for two games is not a way to solve the violence. That is like telling one of these multi-millionaires that they have a mini-vacation, a chance to visit their sons or daughters. These people need to know that if they break a law anywhere, they are going to get it placed on their permanent record.

Houston Rocket forward Charles Barkley once threw a man through a glass window at a bar for lewd behavior towards him.

Maybe if the NBA used the law in the way they controlled actions on the court this would have stopped this from happening. Barkley may have thought twice before his actions.

As of late, misconduct in the NHL has finally had to involve the law. Marty McSorley of the Boston Bruins intentionally hit Vancouver

Canuck's Donald Brashear in the head with his stick causing him to fall to the ice, unconscious, with a concussion. Vancouver police arrested McSorley and he is scheduled for trial on Oct. 2 for assault with a weapon.

I commend you, Vancouver, bravo!

Hopefully this one incident will finally open eyes and make all the loyalists finally come to their senses and stop solving the problems in-house. These are sports, not some secret society. They should be treated with the same laws as everyone else.

This is a time when violence is seen in media and Hollywood as glamorized, rather than horrific as it should be shown.

Sports figures are public figures. If they are going to act violently in front of the public, they should pay in a court of law for their actions as the average man would.

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Lady Wolves could advance in May

By Nikki Sberdan

During the past couple of weeks, the JJC women's six-pitch softball team has begun finishing up its season. The team was 19-23 after their doubleheader loss Saturday, April 22.

The previous Saturday, the Lady Wolves took on the College of DuPage. In the first game, Christina Riley had two hits, while Kristin Bols and Tracy Phillips each doubled. The score was JJC 0, DuPage 7. The second game was stronger for JJC as they came out 3-2 over DuPage. Freshman Jenny Sinkular pitched the victory.

On Sunday, April 16, JJC won

the first game against McHenry Community College 3-1. Sinkular pitched the win. The Lady Wolves lost game two, 6-4, while Alison Carpenter hit a single and Lisa Gierich had an RBI hit. Riley and Sinkular added RBIs.

Tuesday, April 18, JJC and Rock Valley played a doubleheader. Sinkular pitched the first game. Although Joliet lost 0-1, Sinkular threw well in the eight-inning game. In game two, Natalie Coleman pitched the win and had three hits and an RBI. Jenna Pasteris drove in two runs.

As the week closed, JJC took on Highland Community College

at home on April 22. The Wolves took two hard losses that day. Pitcher Sinkular threw eight innings the first game. Bols and George Szymczak each had hits for Joliet. Finishing up that day, Bols had two hits, including an RBI triple. Gierich had a single, double and run-batted-in.

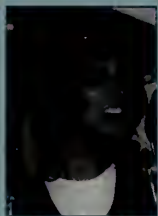
The Region IV Finals take place at Inwood Sports Complex in Joliet on Friday and Saturday, May 5 and 6.

If they win, the Lady Wolves advance to the NJCAA Division III Championship May 18-20. The championship takes place in Arnold, Maryland.

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Car accident takes students life

**Friend remembers
positive impact Tom.
Henney had on her life
and lives of others**

by Michelle Tarrant

Tom Henney will always be remembered for his sense of humor, advice and most of all, his kindness and friendship toward others. The 19-year-old JJC student was killed in a car accident Sept. 8, only five minutes from his home in Manhattan.

Henney was born in Hinsdale and lived in Chicago until moving to the area four years ago. The freshman was enrolled in several welding classes at JJC and was attempting to receive his GED.

A close friend of his, 18-year-old Trisha Cogan, recalled her first encounter with Henney during her freshman year at Lincoln-Way High School. "I remember that I

thought he was weird looking because he had long blonde hair and black nail polish on," she said. "I hoped he wouldn't talk to me and then one day he was looking at some of my papers in English class and we started to talk. I'm glad we did."

According to Cogan, Henney always had a carefree and lighthearted traits.

"Tom had the kind of personality of whatever happens, happens," she said.

Cogan also stated that Henney would always help friends who needed a hand and was always



around to offer someone a piece of advice.

"If there was a problem he would throw away the world to help you," she said. "He always helped a lot of people with their problems. He was everyone's rock and support."

Hundreds of his friends and relatives attended the wake and funeral services Sept. 10 and Sept. 11 held at Kurtz Memorial Chapel in New Lenox.

"So many kids came and stayed," stated Cogan. "In a way

we were all together one more time because of him. It was a great feeling."

Because Henney touched so
"If there was a problem he would throw away the world to help you."

- Trisha Cogan

many individuals, several people thought of him as a close friend. "When we heard that he died so many people said that they thought of him as their best friend," said Cogan.

Henney is survived by his parents Thomas and Mary Henney; two brothers, Brian and Joseph; maternal grandfather James Burgholter, paternal grandparents Michael and Patricia Hickey and great-great uncles Al, David and Lawrence Zimmerman.

JJC approves budget; tax rate stays steady

by Kaylee Van Hoose

JJC's Board of Trustees recently approved the college's operating budget for fiscal year 2001. The \$38.5 million budget for 2001 represents a 4.1 percent increase over the revised 2000 budget. The Board of Trustees has passed a balanced operating budget 28 consecutive years.

According to a recent press release, this year's tax rate in the JJC district is projected to be 22.47 cents per \$100 of "equalized assessed valuation." There was little change from last year.

"This budget was developed through a process that was more inclusive and participatory than any previous budget in the 26 years I have been at the college," stated JJC President J.D. Ross in a recent press release. "It is a testimony to the vision of the college's three vice-presidents for developing this process and creating this budget in a manner which draws input of so many throughout the college."

JJC's \$20,314,987 proposed tax levy is 6.7 percent higher than the taxes that were collected by the college this past year for its operating and special purpose funds. However, the tax increase does not mean the taxpayer's payments will

"We have been able to steadily grow the budget over the past few years without having to ask taxpayers to bear the brunt of that cost."

-JJC Controller Judy Munroe

be significantly affected.

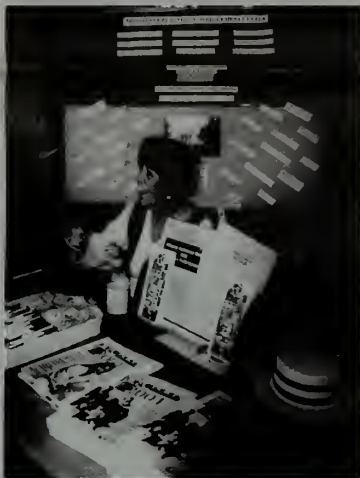
Also, the increased money collected by the college is based on the district's anticipated revenues from new commercial and residential construction.

The press release explains that for the owner of a house with a market value of \$150,000, the estimated amount of taxes paid to the college is \$112.35, compared to the current rate of \$110.10.

"We are very fortunate that our district is one of the fastest growing in the Illinois because our tax levy is directly related to that growth."

We have been able to steadily grow the budget over the past few years without having to ask taxpayers to bear the brunt of that cost," said JJC Controller Judy Munroe.

MAINSTREET 2000



JJC held its Mainstreet 2000 celebration Sept. 13-14. For more photos and a story see pages 6 and 7. Photo by Laura Murphy

Centennial celebration inspires art competition

by Amher Alling

As JJC prepares to celebrate 100 years of excellence, a competition is being held for artists of the area.

The centennial artwork competition awards \$1500 in five different categories including high school students, JJC students, faculty and staff, alumni and artists from within the college's district.

Chosen pieces will be displayed on campus for the centennial celebration.

The centennial artwork competition awards \$1500 in five different categories

Original artwork, not exceeding 84" in any dimension is acceptable to submit. Entries are limited to three per artist and must be given within one 35mm slide for each piece.

Entry forms and a \$20 fee are

a necessity to be considered for the contest. All high school students and JJC students are waived of the fee, but still have to submit with an entry form. The deadline for all entries is Oct. 2.

Judging occurs on Dec. 1 and

awards will be given from 5-7pm.

* Most artwork featured has been drawings and paintings, but collages, sculptures, photography and jewelry are also acceptable. The competition coordinator is Lisa Hellman, who can be located at 1-2036 or by email at lhellman@jcc.cc.il.us

You can be a part of the promise of tomorrow by helping represent Joliet Junior College as we celebrate our centennial of excellence.

Opinion

Question: Who mowed Boo Radley's front yard?

My house is half painted gray. The balcony on the front of the house is gone.

If the wind blows too hard my front door will jar open. Yes, I am THAT neighbor.

When I say THAT neighbor, I mean the one that all of the other neighborhood whisper about is the neighborhood meeting or social event.

Walking by my house they cover their child's eyes out of fear that an infectious disease might come crawling out of the paneling that is peeling off the sides.

Last Halloween, I bought enough candy to feed an entire school of kindergartners and all I received was one knock. It was from a 17-year-old looking for a party. Since my house was broken down and disheveled looking, they thought the Halloween party must be here. I could not help them with the party, but I did fill their pockets with enough candy to give the

tooth fairy a solid career for years to come.

Recently, I received a ticket for my utter incompetence. I had not mowed my lawn in about three months and now it exceeded the legal limit of six inches. Had someone come to my house with a measuring stick?

A \$20 fine for letting nature take its course. Out of anger, I thought about moving an X in my yard. That would show them who would be master of my domain. I walked into my garage and pushed my way through the one little path left uncluttered by junk.

Since the light in the garage

broke a year ago, I had not been in there. Finally finding the lawnmower, I came to discover that it did not work any more. It had kaput like half the things in my house. I would have to cut the lawn some other time.

Soon a week went by and the grass kept growing, until one day, I pulled up on my immaculately clean car to find that my front yard had been cut, flowers had been planted and the bushes were trimmed.

I was appalled. Someone had mowed my lawn. I looked to God and asked him to have made it a miracle and not someone I knew. In

my mind it seemed plausible that there could be a Lawn God. Maybe he would look like the little lawn gnomes everyone has out front in their lawns.

Out of embarrassment, I fled for the safety of my house. Before I could open the door, I heard the voice of my neighbor. She stood there grinning ear to ear with her 4-year-old son sitting next to her playing in the dirt. I looked down with wilted shoulders.

"Did you do this?" I questioned.

She responded by saying, "Yes, I did. I had some extra dirt and flowers, so I thought I would

put them to use." I thanked her and dragged what little dignity I had left in to the house.

For the past week, I have repeatedly had to thank her for her generosity. I keep on explaining how I had just bought a sickle and was going to do the grass that day. She only smiles the smile of someone who has you under the thumb. Life has been pretty normal as of late. Waste management won't pick up the trimmings from the bushes my neighbor cut.

I have received a warning ticket for parking in my front yard. The ticket for not mowing my lawn has become \$40 and court fees because I did not pay it on time.

As of right now, I am searching for any type of food that looks like it may be edible in my refrigerator and wondering how much longer I have to go before my grass has to be mowed again. Winter is coming quick.

Napster users ride the lightning to download MP3s

My musical tastes are fairly eclectic. Any song written with heart I'll listen to regardless of the style. Classical, pop, electronic, jazz, world, country, folk you name it.

So last semester I was glad to hear there was a software program called Napster on the internet that allowed people to download music for free from anyone who wanted to share it.

Now I can listen to new music and sample songs without having to buy a CD that may have only two good songs, one of which is played endlessly on the radio (Kiosks have helped, but they don't have everything).

Plus, I actually discovered that there are people out there who listen to Björk, Bane De Gaia, and Miles Davis.

* But apparently Napster has stirred up quite a controversy and I'm beginning to wonder if I'm doing something wrong by downloading music for free. Am I thief?

Looking at the digital world

By Matt Furlane

The music industry is consulting with fear that Napster allows users to "steal" songs and cut into corporate and artist royalties. (despite contrary figures of CD sales).

Since April the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) and Metallica have both sued Napster.

The RIAA has sought to have the company shut down and a final court decision will come in October.

Metallica band member Lars Ulrich stormed into the Napster office with a list of 300,000 names of everyone who downloaded Metallica music.

He demanded that those users accounts be terminated. JJC stu-

dent Michelle Tarrant was one of those people. "I had all my files deleted by Napster just because I downloaded a 10-year-old Metallica song. Gimme a break!"

In addition to Metallica a host of other bands have come out against Napster (Get a full band list at <http://www.screwmetallica.org>), arguing that it's theft.

So what do I have? A file swapping program that allows me to listen to new music and share it with other like-minded people, or a copyright violating software program from the land of hackerdom that allows me to "steal-loot-pirate-bootleg" artists music and siphon industry profits?

If it's the latter, then I'm stealing!

I decided to look around a little to find out.

A www.Salon.com article by musician John Perry had this to say.

"I learned of Napster when a friend e-mailed me an MP3 of the Cure performing an Only Ones song, 'Another Girl. Another Planet,' at a Pittsburgh sound check. Never having had the good fortune to play Pittsburgh, I was

thus indebted to Napster for allowing me to share the experience. I became very fond of Napster, using it to track down deeply loved songs that are otherwise very hard to come by -- obscure Delta Blues recordings, long-deleted country-Western rarities and so forth."

Hey, sounds ok to me. Sharing is what it's all about.

The August issue of Macworld magazine reads:

"Say good-bye to your CD collection: Napster lets you STEAL your songs."

Hmmm...anyone else?

JJC student Jeff Rice has a cable piped into his computer and can download any song he wants in a couple of minutes. Maybe he can help.

"I think it's sharing. It's like borrowing a CD from someone. I usually borrow from a friend first then buy later anyway...most of the people I know like to buy the whole CD and some like to create their own mixes."

Yeah Jeff. How about another magazine.

Wired magazine's latest issue has an article by John P. Barlow declaring Napster to be nothing

short of revolutionary.

"The great cultural war has broken out at last. Long awaited by some and a nasty surprise to others, the conflict between the industrial age and the virtual age is now being fought in earnest, thanks to that modestly conceived but paradigm-shattering thing called Napster." Whoa!

Well, I'm not making any money (from the songs and I've yet to download an entire CD, but I'm sure someone somewhere is abusing the software).

I think the issue is going to need some more time to work itself out so people and artists can both benefit, since they both need each other.

I'm just going to have to enjoy my little bit of freedom while it lasts.

The word on the street is that Napster will be shutdown in October and forced to compensate the music industry. But similar file swapping sites like www.screwm.com will pick up right where Napster ended with added features that go beyond just downloading music.

So the days of wildly free music through Napster may be over within a few weeks.

I better get downloading. If you think Napster is a great source or outright theft or a little of both e-mail me at matthack@netscape.net and let me know what you think.

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EDITORIAL

Many foster children have no rights in society

by Kaylee Van Hoose

Election time is near and I have just one question: what will be done about foster children's rights? I consider myself a very fortunate individual. I have grown from birth with a loving family. But I realize that not all children were and are as fortunate as I am. Too many are born into poverty, abuse, and misfortune. Many are born into a world without any hope at all. Some are left for dead while their birth parents shun them from a future.

However, there are many people out there who are eagerly waiting to be the best parents they can.

waiting for that one chance to have a child. Many turn to the hard process of adopting and foster care. A married couple I know turned to the foster care program. They went through extensive training and finally their prayers were answered. They received that call that would grant them the privilege to be foster parents.

She is a beautiful premature two-month-old African American baby girl who was abandoned in the hospital since birth after being born addicted to crack and cocaine, a hole in her heart, and without a family. Her mother, not yet 30 years old, has nine other children

with none allowed in her custody and one that died last year of untreated bronchitis and malnutrition.

Now, nearly 8 months old, she's receiving as much love as a child can get proper medical care, and a future that she was denied by her biological mother.

After 6 months of being with her new foster parents, the baby's biological mother came forward to regain custody. Completely devastated, the foster parents went to court only to hear that the baby's birth mother has the right to have two weeks to find a family member to take her.

A week later, they got a call asking if they could take the baby's 17-month-old brother. The biological mother failed to show up for random drug tests. The mother wasn't even supposed to have him in her custody.

During this time, the children's biological father, who has been arrested several times for possession of drugs, requested and was granted visitation with the baby girl. The father wanted nothing to do with the baby boy.

I realize that there was a chance that the biological parents will regain custody in a foster-adapt program, but I am flabber-

gated that parents that have abandoned a child and that have abused another, have rights to those children who they have neglected and harmed. On the other hand, the foster parents have no say in the future of the children whom they loved since they were granted custody of them.

What happens to the children when they are removed from their loving home and placed into an unstable environment? Where are the rights of these children? The awful truth sinks in as I realize that these children have none. What do Gore and Bush have to say about that?

Summer's not over until somebody sings

by Michelle Tarrant

School has started once again, so let me be the first to welcome you back to good ol' Joliet Junior College. Boy, it feels pretty darn good. No more summer job and no more nasty sunburns. Summer is over in most of our eyes, but for me, it's not quite over till the fat lady sings. Or at least till somebody sings.

The summer concert season is winding down and although most of the big tours are over and done with, there are still a few choice acts to check out before it gets nippy outside.

Luckily, this summer I had the opportunity to attend one of the best tours to sweep across the country. "The Mark, Tom and

Travis Show 2000" presented Blink 182 at the World Music Theater in early June.

When my friend asked me to go, the first thing that popped into my head was the cost. I knew this ticket would run me at least 30 bucks. Now, I have seen a lot of different venues, so you can imagine my shock when she presented me with a \$15 ticket.

Fifteen dollars? I was thoroughly confused. Well, I have now come to realize that you don't question the oddities in situations like these, so I kept my mouth shut.

Blink 182 didn't open their show with an overdone light show or song, "HOW ARE YOU CHICA-GOOO?" Instead, the boys of

Blink had a huge screen hanging on wire toward the back of the stage where 1950s-style informative movies on sex, drugs and relationships played non-stop throughout the show. When they showed a clip from a post-war, anti-smoking campaign of a monkey with a cigarette hanging from its mouth, I literally went bananas.

Halfway through their performance, Blink pulled off a stunt that only those rear-end bearing kids could do. The bass was turned up and everyone in the audience tuned in.

"The Thong Song" was cranked up to add on the volume scale and Mark, Tom and Travis busted a move to the pop, summer hit twice. When the boys of Blink

requested that the audience join in on the dancing, there wasn't a body that wasn't moving. At that point, my friend Amanda and I, along with thousands of Blink fans, got our groove on and sang at the top of our lungs. "Let me see that thong!"

The thing that made Blink 182's performance memorable was the fact that it was simple, fun and appealing. Not once during the show did they put themselves on a "superstar" level and the live versions of "What's My Age Again?" and "Adams Song" were done with real feeling and emotion. I still can't believe that night of crazy fun only cost me a whopping \$15.

If you missed tours such as the "Mark, Tom and Travis Show," "The Up & Sneeze Tour" or "Rockfest 2000," there is still a chance to catch some really great artists in action.

Barenaked Ladies is scheduled to perform at the UIC Pavilion Sept. 24. All tickets cost \$35 and are still on sale.

Moby has scheduled a two-night stay in Chicago with shows at the Aragon Ballroom Oct. 6 and

Oct. 8. A few seats are still available for the Oct. 8 show. The ticket price for the show is \$27.50. Also, if you have ever been to the Aragon for a show, hearing Moby's musical distinctiveness is sure to be a treat.

And finally Pearl Jam has planned a show Oct. 8 at Alpine Valley Music Theater in Wisconsin. I will be attending this show, perhaps out of fear that such a great band won't be touring again for a long time. Tickets are exceptionally reasonable for a high profile act. Prices range from \$26.50 for seats inside the pavilion and on the lawn.

Hopefully, most of you took the opportunity to check out some of the big tours this summer, as well as finding some time to stop by the local venues to see fellow Chicagoans. For information on local artists and shows in Chicago and other major artists and shows coming to the city, visit <http://www.bigbaer.com> or <http://clubs.yahoo.com/clubs/the-dynamonkeyhut> for show times and venues.

New swing class

by Amber Alling

"Jump, Live and Well" every-one. JJC is now offering a swing dance class for only \$52. Classes started Tuesday night September 12 and will continue through October 17 at the Renaissance Center in Joliet.

Students will learn the basics of swing, along with many differ-

ent styles including the Charleston, as well as other fascinating moves.

Also, students are able to strut their stuff on Saturday, October 28, at the center's swing party from 8:30pm-11:30pm. Herd d'oeuvres and cocktails will be served at 7:30pm, so don't be late! There will also be a best-dressed contest, so wear your 40's era clothes and cane the night away!

The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters.

Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and the sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through inter-office or regular mail, or drop them off at the Blazer office at G-1009.

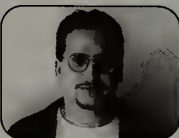
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Question of the Issue

"Do you feel that the record industry should go after companies like Napster and MP3.com?"



"I feel that the activities of Napster and MP3 are tantamount to professional thievery from the record industry. It defeats the philosophy of free enterprise of individual artists." Johnnie Johnson, JJC Jansceep Coordinator



"No, because music is like knowledge, it should be free." Sophomore, Jason White



"The record industry provides a service to the consumer; therefore they should reap the profits."

Sophomore, Janice Grant



"No, it's like a library, people buy their mp3's and just allow others to borrow."

Freshman, Kevin Zola



"Yes, it's understandable because otherwise the industry loses money and their livelihood." Freshman, Phil White



"If I was an artist, I would be offended if people downloaded my hard work for free."

Freshman, Mark Olson

News

JJC prepares for new college operating system conversion

Joliet Junior College has scheduled a conversion to the most recent version of the Collegiate College Data Management Software System Oct. 7. As a result, the college will be without its general computer operating system for about 2 1/2 weeks. The process is set to begin Oct. 7, with completion scheduled for Oct. 25.

The move to the new system is necessary to JJC because Datatel, the company which manufactures

the system, will offer very limited support to those colleges still using older versions of the program.

The new software package will provide for a new and improved telephone touch-tone registration system. "The benefits to this conversion go far beyond the new features," said JJC Associate Vice President for Information Technology, Tony Cota.

During the conversion period,

college faculty and staff will have almost no access to the main operating system of the college. No new information will be processed into the system after Oct. 6. A few limited offices will have the ability to look up information that was already in the system during the shutdown process.

"We'll still process financial aid," said Cota. "We'll still admit and register students, we'll just have to do the old-fashioned way

for two weeks and then enter all the info once the system comes back up."

JJC students will see little change in their day-to-day routines at the college. No classes are scheduled to be canceled during this project and all staff in affected offices will still provide assistance for business during the down time.

Kiosks will not be available during the conversions. Also, students will not be able to get print-

outs of their schedules, forms for bookstore loans or deferred payment plans or any other such functions usually available at the kiosks.

For more information on the conversion process or for information on the systems affected please contact DJ Wells at 815-280-2279.

Information provided by JJC Community Relations Department

New massage class scheduled to begin

By Andre Pope

A new Therapeutic Massage Class is currently open for enrollment at JJC. The class is scheduled to begin Oct. 24. From that point, sessions will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. for four weeks. Currently, the program is limited to 10 students per class, but may grow at a later date.

In this new and unique class, students will learn the different factors involved with therapeutic massage including draping, basic concepts, legal issues, massage techniques and basic anatomy and physiology.

"By taking this class, the students will learn different ways to relieve the tensions of the day, and they could learn the way to make the significant other feel good in the process," says Cathy Schley,

manager of the Health Care and continuing education.

Also, the majority of the supplies are provided, but students will need to bring bed sheets and a pillow.

"By taking this class, the students will learn different ways to relieve the tensions of the day."

—Cathy Schley

The field of therapeutic massage is an extremely reputable and lucrative field to anyone who is interested.

Those interested can contact Cathy Schley at (815) 280-2356 or (815) 280-2436 and also by email at Cschley@jcc.cc.il.us.

New dean sets goals for JJC

by Lorraine Guerrero

Pattie Fine has high goals set for herself and Joliet Junior College students as the new Dean of Student Development.

"I hope to advance the notion that learning occurs outside the classroom, whether it be through a club, career-planning, Holistic Wellness or involvement in an extra-curricular program," said Fine.

"I intend to listen to students and work to improve services so that they can realize their dreams."

As the Dean of Student Development, Fine's duty as an administrator is to oversee student discipline.

She is responsible for supervising all of the following areas as well: Holistic Wellness, Student Activities, Multi-cultural Transfer Center, Career Planning and Placement, Early Childhood Center and the Student Center.

Fine received her associate's degree from Moraine Valley Community College.

She came to Joliet Junior College to serve as the Director of Student Services and Activities in 1997.



Pattie Fine assists a student during Mainstreet 2000.

Photo Laura Murphy

She then went on to National Louis University where she received her bachelor's degree in applied behavioral science.

Fine then received a master's degree in educational administration from Governor's State University.

She served 20 years at Moraine Valley Community College as an administrator before

"She has been creative, she's been hard word working, and she understands the importance of working in a collaborative manner," said Al Harderson, Vice President of Student Services and Activities.

"It is our hope that Pattie will assist the college by making the development of students a top priority."

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Features

Gores campaign issues will help college students

by Jim Reardon

With the 2000 election only a few months away, The Democratic Party has nominated Vice President Al Gore to run for the president of the United States.

Gore and his running mate Sen. Joseph Lieberman have decided to run a campaign that is based on "continuing the success led by the Clinton administration."

The following are some issues that Gore has debated and talked about, many of which are the concern of many young adults.

Minimum Wage Law - one of Gore's strongest stands is on increasing minimum wage from the current \$5.15 to \$6.15. This

would increase the pay of over 11 million workers, over 3 million of whom are college students.

This is an attempt to help working class families and college students live a more fruitful life and keep wages in line with inflation.

The opposition, however, believes that this would cost 300,000 workers their jobs, as companies could not afford to pay the increased rate.

Education - in addition to raising the minimum wage, Gore promises to also aid college students in two ways. First, he pledges to increase the amount of time students have to pay back fed-

Gore pledges to create a '401k' account, where employers or family can give up to \$2,500 yearly to be used tax-free for educational or life learning expenses

eral and state college loans.

This would reduce the economic stress placed onto college students as they enter the "work-force," and also encourage a higher enrollment.

Second, Gore pledges to create a "401k" account, where employers or family can give up to \$2,500 yearly to be used tax-free

for educational or life-long learning expenses. This encourages saving for college, while giving those that do a tax-break for doing so.

Campaign Finance Reform - one of the large issues in almost any presidential race is campaign funds.

Gore intends to reform campaign financing by keeping a cap on individual contributions to campaigns, and also by a "Democracy Endowment" fund. This would be a fund paid for by tax dollars that would finance senate and presidential election advertising.

Budget - The current national debt is estimated at over five trillion dollars and increasing at the rate of seventy-five million per day. Despite promising tax cuts and additional social programs, Gore promises a balanced budget, and an end to national debt by 2012.

For information on Gore visit <http://www.algore.com>.

Bush emphasizes education, tax cuts and gun control

by Joseph Chinderle

Another election year is upon us. As America prepares to choose who will be best suited to represent their government and better our community, by ways of tax cuts, increasing minimum wage and welfare reform or environmental issues, this is when many Americans get to exercise the right to vote.

On Aug. 3 Texas Gov. George W. Bush was nominated as his party's front runner for the position of president.

For most college students, the issue of education is one of concern. Bush believes that schools must clear measurable goals focused on basic skills and essential knowledge. In addition, there must be regular testing to ensure

goals are being met.

He feels failing schools should be given a finite period to change. If they fail to do so, children of low-income families will have the option of transferring to other public schools or using their share of federal funds to pay for other options such as tutoring, charter schools, etc.

Bush proposes to increase the annual "Education Savings Account" contribution limit from \$500 to \$5,000 and allow funds to be drawn tax-free. He then plans to expand loan forgiveness from \$5,000 to \$17,500 for math and science majors who commit to teach in high-need schools for five years.

Another issue that is in the forefront is the question of tax cuts and proposals. Governor Bush

believes all taxpayers should be allowed to keep more of their own money.

His proposed best way to help all families is to let each family keep more of its income and spend it, as it deems appropriate.

He believes the best way to cut marginal rates and the best way to encourage economic growth is to cut tax rates across all tax brackets. Bush's reform proposal replaces the current five-rate structure with four lower rates.

Bush's tax cut proposal breaks down into four points:

1) Cut the current 15 percent tax bracket to 10 percent for the first \$6,000 of taxable income for singles, the first \$10,000 for single parents and the first \$12,000 for married couples. This would also

include doubling the child tax credit to \$1,000.

2) Cut the maximum tax rate for the middle class to 25 percent versus the current rates of 28 percent and 30 percent, and greatly reduce the marriage penalty by restoring the 10 percent deduction for two income families. This would then allow them to deduct up to an additional \$3,000.

3) Cap the top tax rate at 33 percent, down from the current 39.6 percent, eliminate Death tax and make the Research and Development tax credit permanent.

4) Extend the deduction for charitable contributions to the 80 million taxpayers that do not itemize, raise the cap on corporate giving and increase the annual contribution limit of education saving

accounts from \$500 to \$5,000 per child.

Another issue may be an important issue to most Americans: gun control.

Bush supports citizens owning guns to protect their families and their homes.

He also supports a ban on fully automatic weapons and opposes government-mandated registration of firearms.

Debates will also be a deciding factor in this election. Polls in the upcoming weeks will change as voters pay more attention to the campaign after the debates are completed.

For information on Bush and his 2000 campaign please visit <http://www.georgewbush.com>.

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Mainstreet

Students pack the halls for latest Mainstreet

By Jesse Cohoon

Students packed the halls during the annual tradition of Joliet Junior College's Mainstreet that was recently held Sept. 13 and Sept. 14 in the concourse between D and H building.

Dance hosted by the Student Alliance. It is now coordinated by the Collegiate Club Council with Brian Tjernivad, Pamela Dilday and Pattie Fine serving as key members in its planning.

"This is a good opportunity to meet new people and find out what's happening besides the academics on campus," said coordinator of student services and activities, Pamela Dilday.

The theme of this year's Mainstreet was Election 2000. Students and faculty displayed red, white and blue top hats to emphasize the spirit and theme of the 2-day event.

Fifty-six tables showcasing 42 clubs and other student services were displayed along the corridor including the Native American Club, Gay Alliance, the Interservice Christian Club and the Gamers Club.

Other organizations such as the Financial Aid Office, Academic Skills Office, members of Project Achieve and counselors participated in the occasion as well.

Among the many planned activities there was even a "mock" presidential election to see which candidate JJC students would vote for.

Students were also encouraged to register to vote for the upcoming presidential election.

Many clubs reported a large

turnout of students interested in the activities. On most display tables, sign-up sheets for membership to clubs and activities were available for interested students.

Dilday also stated that the reason for this event is to "encourage students to become more involved in extracurricular activities."

Student Tom Rednour III said that Mainstreet is an important and informative event for students.

"I think it's a good idea because it's good for incoming freshmen and it's a good idea to let the students know what activities there are."

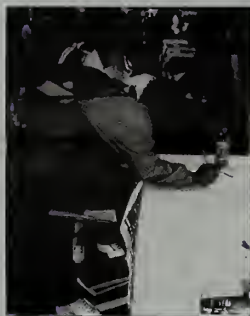
-Student Tom Rednour III

"I think it's a good idea because it's good for incoming freshmen and it's a good idea to let the students know what activities there are," he explained.

With hundreds of JJC students juggling schoolwork with jobs, it can be difficult to take the time to find out what sorts of clubs and activities are offered on campus.

"I got to register to vote," said student Heriberto Eggman. "And I got a free pencil."

While shuffling from class to class, it is no doubt that students were presented the opportunity to see what Mainstreet had to offer.



Photos on pages 6 and 7 show students and faculty visiting club and information tables at Mainstreet 2000. All photos taken by Photo Editor Laura Murphy.

Sign up to win \$200!

PLAY

THINKFAST

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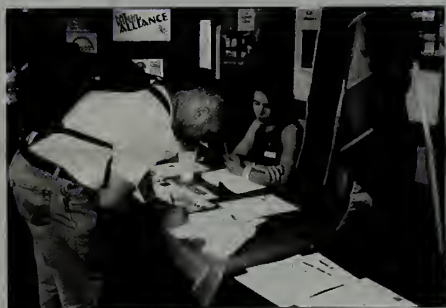
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Features

EVENTS: Planetarium shows, Laura Sprague Exhibit and Lectures

Have something for the Calendar? Please submit events at least two weeks ahead of time to ensure inclusion. For information on submissions please call 815-280-2313 or e-mail the Blazer at blazer@jic.cc.il.us.

The Institute of

Economic Technology is offering Career Academies for anyone interested in exploring various fields. The program includes presentations, demonstrations, field trips and tours. The cost of

the course is \$220 per person. For information (815-280-1313).

Herbert Trackman Planetarium has scheduled the star shows "Our Place in Space" for 6:30 p.m. Sept. 21 and "Lunar Odyssey" for 7:30 p.m. Sept. 26. The planetarium is located in the F-Building on JJC's Main Campus. Admission is free. For information (815-280-NOVA).

JJC is currently searching for

Centennial Superstars.

Anyone interested in nominating someone who has attended JJC and has distinguished themselves personally and professionally should contact Lisa Hellman. For information 815-280-2745.

The Laura Sprague Gallery exhibit "Society Welcomes Careful Driver" by Michael Rank will be featured in the gallery between 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday through Friday. The

gallery is located in the Main Campus J-Building on the 2nd floor. For information 815-729-9020, ext. 2423 or 2223.

The Brown Bag Lecture

Series continues into the fall with "The Trials of William Shakespeare: A Discussion of Lawyers and the Bard" at 12 p.m. Sept. 29. This session, coordinated by Jim Baskin of the English Department, will be held in the J-0005 on the Main Campus.

The Institute of Economic Technology has scheduled several seminars on workplace safety at the Main Campus beginning Sept. 22. Registration is required for these seminars. For information 815-280-1555.

The Newman Club is sponsoring Christmas in October from Oct. 1-Oct. 7. Clothing, toys and school supplies are being collected for the Casa de Los Angeles.

JJC Fine Arts Department to present comedy 'Butterflies Are Free' in October

By Scott Bessler

The Joliet Junior College Fine Arts Department has scheduled "Butterflies Are Free" at the Fine Arts Theater in the K-Building at the Main Campus Oct. 5-7 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 8 at 2:30 p.m.

"Butterflies Are Free," by Leonard Gershe, is a traditional comedy that recounts the efforts of a young, sightless man.

In the play, the man must cope with city life, an overprotective mother and a potential romance with his neighbor, a carefree aspiring actress.

Dr. Rosaline B. Stone is directing the play. Staff member Nicki Blowers is technical director, with Kate Mitleahy of Bollingbrook serving as stage manager.

Cast members are Jennifer

Hughes and Joshua Nelson of Plainfield, Jeff Bunting of New Lenox and Katherine Brisick of Crest Hill.

Nick Simon of Joliet, Kristi Crawford of Frankfort and Nichole Carlette of Shorewood will be serving as understudies.

Ticket Prices for this presentation are \$1 for JJC students and children 12 and under, \$2 for senior citizens, non-JJC students, faculty and staff. General admission for the public is \$3.

As an ongoing community service, play attendees are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to exchange at the concession stand for a snack. Local food bands are the recipients of the donations.

Other productions planned for the upcoming theater season are "A

Midsummer Night's Dream,"

"Cabaret" and "Sealed."

Theater subscriptions for the 2000-2001 season are currently available. Subscriber benefits include up to 33% in savings for the single ticket admission price to each show.

Benefits also include preferred seating, ticket exchange and replacement and inclusion to a special reception planned before the opening night of Butterflies Are Free.

Subscriptions are on sale until Oct. 8.

For more ticket prices and play information please contact Nicki Blowers at 815-280-2200.

Horoscopes

by Michelle Tarrant

Virgo

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Don't eat that cheeseburger. Rumor has it that you don't need to eat a whole burger to get that daily dose of cheese. Instead, eat a "Moo-Town Snacker." They are fun to eat, and you still get the cheese.

Libra

(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Your skin will continue to look pasty and the rings under your eyes are getting darker. The Internet will be the death of you.

Scorpio

(Oct. 23-Nov. 22)

Keep up the good lovin'.

Sagittarius

(Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

All hope is lost. We tried to contact you telepathically, but you're line is always busy.

Capricorn

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Today is a 1. That is bad. Oh, and we forgot...your car was in the tow-zone. It's been impounded. And if you think that is bad, it's been sold to Bob Barker for a future business endeavor.

Aquarius

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

"This is the dawning of the age of Aquariusuuuuu!" I can never get that song out of my head.

Pisces

(Feb. 19-March 20)

Stop being so wishy-washy. No one likes that attitude, so take a shower and get your "un-wishy-washy" attitude back. Suggested: Herbal Essences. We like the moaning.

Aries

(March 21-April 19)

You think you're so smart? Well, no one else does. Get off your high horse and clean up the manure.

Taurus

(April 20-May 20)

Calm down. Breathe in and out. Are you feeling better yet? No? Well, I tried.

Gemini

(May 21-June 20)

You need to get some more medication. That bipolar disorder is coming back in full swing.

Cancer

(June 21-July 22)

Don't hate this paper. It is good.

Leo

(July 23-August 22)

You are so nice. We see a sick puppy following you home. Look! It likes you! You are so nice. But, it has rabies.

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Features

CD REVIEW

Wyclef Jean-*Eclectic*, NOFX-*unchanging*, J.Mitchell-*Face First*

CD Ratings:

- ***** - Excellent
- **** - Great
- *** - Good Tunes
- ** - Not worth the \$15
- * - Not worth the wax

by Matt Packard

Wyclef Jean
The Eclectic
RATING
**** 1/2

You don't have to rap about drugs and guns to play hip-hop, you don't have to promote yourself to

be respected and you don't have to restrict yourself to any style...if you're talented.

On his new album, Wyclef comes through with an eclectic assortment of genre-bending compositions. He fuses country and hip-hop on the

"Kenny Rogers-Pharoche Monch Dub Plate."

The strange vocal mix and milky fusion give off an eerily pleasant vibe similar to Moby's recent work.

He then recites honest, good-natured and smart lyrics over

rugged beats on tracks like "Pull Me In." Later, Clef brings one of the best roller rink grooves to be composed in years on "Perfect Gentleman."

"It Doesn't Matter" can be inspirational and enjoyable if you can tune out the cheesy injections of (WWF superstar) The Rock.

The Refugee bares his soul in a series of smooth R&B cuts and liveness things up with bouncy, tempo-shifting urban beats.

He even impresses on an interesting interpolation of the Pink Floyd staple, "Wish You Were Here."

He claims on the opening track that all he hears is "Fugee this, fugee that, where fugee at?"

NOFX / Pump
Up the Valuum
RATING
**** 1/2

Yet, if Clef maintains this level of creativity and artistry, people might stop wondering.

Before you unwrap the latest NOFX disc, you will notice that the punk heroes haven't changed (not that we expected them to). They are still pumping out driving, musically sound songs with curious titles like "Thank God It's Monday," "Clams Have Feelings Too (Actually They Don't)" and "What's the Matter with Parents Today?"

Fat Mike sings clever lyrics with the same commanding, distinct voice and the same enthusiasm as on their past records.

As always, the drumming and basslines are nearly flawless and they continue to favor their songs with catchy melodies that separate them from most other punk bands.

Their versatility allows them to attack corporate music ("Dinosaurs Will Die") and play tunes that the kids at the mall can pump their fists to ("Bottles To The Ground").

If you consider "The Brews" and the ultimate NOFX anthem, "Theme From a NOFX Album," they both give it stiff competition.

It is a fitting summary of the band's decade and a half together, a great way to close an album and would make a nice finale at their final retirement show.

Upon listening, you can almost see too many people in too small of a venue raising arms and bottles to celebrate everything that was NOFX.

But let's hope that doesn't come around for a while.

As many of you have suggest-

ed, I am taking the opportunity this year to discuss more local music.

James Mitchell
Face First
RATING ****

For popping out as few mainstream successes as it does, the Chicagoland area has always had a furiously active music scene.

Now, I must be honest, I've known James for years. However, this is not a shameless plug for a friend. Face First is a tight, moving and sometimes therapeutic record. He composed and performed all 11 tracks and makes none of his influences obvious.

He employs a great deal of fluid acoustic guitar, vocal effects and even a flute and ends up with a sound hiss.

Most of the tracks are moody, mid-tempo songs married to emotional and intriguing lyrics.

While puppets and dolls own the charts today, it's refreshing to know that there are true artists that live and perform as close to home as some of the songs that Face First hit.

With that said, now comes the shameless plug: Face First is carried at Discount Records in Frankfort.

Considering I don't know where any of you live, you can contact James at his website: <http://members.aol.com/JamesMit781/Productions.html>

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CLUB EVENTS

Collegiate Club Council

JJC clubs are required to have representation at these meetings:
Meets Wednesdays.
J-0006, 2:30-5:00pm.

Student Alliance

Student government.
Meets Thursdays.
Bridge, 2:00-5:30pm.

Graphology Club

For those wanting to learn handwriting analysis and how it can help you make changes in your life.
Meets Fridays.
B-1002, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Parapsychology Club

For those wanting to broaden their human understanding through concepts that expand the mind, body and spirit and promote parapsychology.

Meets Fridays.

D-2001, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Native American Club

Promotes awareness of native American culture.
Meets Sept. 20.
TV Studio, 7:00 p.m.

Peers Promoting Wellness

Promotes wellness among students including alcohol awareness, stress management, peer theater.
Meets Sept. 27.
D-1010, Noon.

If your organization would like to be regularly included in the club listings please send club information to the Blazer Office at

Office G-1009
Phone: 280-2313
blazer@jjc.cc.il.us
www.jjc.cc.il.us/Blazer

Check out the Blazer on the Web at
www.jjc.cc.il.us/Blazer



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MacDougall ready to play some football

By Tony Ciampa

On Jan. 21, 2000, the JJC football team gained a man of great knowledge in college football. As a head coach he led the College of Dupage to three undefeated seasons in the 90s and was voted into the NJCAA Football Hall of Fame.

Bob MacDougall's credentials prove how dedicated he is to coaching.

His 8-5 record in bowl games and 175-59 won-loss record overall shows the winning attitude he has placed in his players over almost 30 years of coaching.

An interview was recently held with MacDougall to learn about his previous coaching experiences and to understand his thoughts and hopes for the 2000 season and beyond.

Blazer: You coached at C.O.D. for 21 years as head coach, and then took a job at linebackers coach at Naperville Central for two years. What made you want to come back to college football to be head coach at JJC?

BM: Honestly, the opportunity presented itself. After I retired at C.O.D., I coached at the high school for a couple of years. When the college and district came to me to see if I was interested in coaching for JJC it seemed like a great opportunity.

I had always thought that Joliet would be a great district to work in and the community is great.

Blazer: What is your greatest accomplishment as a coach in football?

BM: I think that the success

rate of the kids moving on to bigger universities is my biggest accomplishment. Community college is a stepping stone for a lot of these kids.

If it were not for this college a lot of these kids would not have the opportunity to go to school. I like knowing that I am helping these kids move on to higher things in their lives.

Blazer: What about in life?

BM: Probably, my wife and I raising our four children.

Blazer: Who has the most potential on the team to become a solid player at a major university or maybe even higher?

BM: A lot of them. Travis

Moten has enormous talent but needs to still put it all together. The secret is to top scores inside of them before Saturday's game. They

need to reach that untapped potential. Some other kids are Charles Frazier, Brian DeVos, Matt Griebel, Darius Whitehead and Steve Farmer. They all have tremendous talent.

Blazer: Last year the team was 4-5, well, 5-5 if you count the forfeit. What are your realistic goals for this year as a team?

BM: In looking at the history of JJC, we have averaged three wins a year. If healthy, I think that we can compete with every team we play this season. If you are asking me to guess, I can't give you a number.

Blazer: What keeps you wanting to coach?

BM: I enjoy teaching the kids and running a whole team at full potential. I also like the pressure of being analyzed every week for our actions as a team. It keeps me on my toes. I am always looking for some new problem because of the added pressure. I also like working with the other coaches. I really like

the camaraderie. It is one of the more enjoyable parts of coaching.

Blazer: What do you consider the best part of this team?

BM: No question, the defense. It is outstanding but not great. That will come with more games under their belt. The greatest thing they do is work within the system. The defensive coordinator will put a package together and they will run within the game plan.

Blazer: The special teams and defense played great in the first game against Grand Rapids. What are you going to do to try to bring the offense up to the same caliber of play?

BM: We made mistakes offensively. We were called for penalties seven times on offense. That is tough to swallow. As the team gets a chance to practice more and more together, they will become better as a unit. It usually takes three games before the offense start to play at its peak performance.

Blazer: Inside the red zone,



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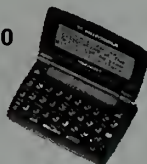
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2000 season looks promising for Wolves Football

By Tim Daly

It's the beginning of a new school year, the beginning of a new millennium and the beginning of something very special for Joliet Junior College football. Already, the Wolves have run their early-season record to 3-0 with a 21-7 win over College of Dupage Sept. 16.

This season marks Head Football Coach Bob MacDougall's first year as a Wolf. MacDougall comes to the team with a phenomenal 174-56 record for the Chaparrals of the College of Dupage.

"Coach Mac" also has 13 bowl games under his belt, with nine of the games held between 1988 and 1996.

"Bob knows what it takes to produce a winning program," said JJC Director of Athletics Wayne King.

With a new coach and a strong



freshman class, the Wolves look to make some noise this season.

Rob Stazak, offensive lineman and one of the team's captains this season said, "We mean business this year. I left my high school with four state championship rings, now I need some hardware with the Wolves."

Defensively, the Wolves are solid boasting a defensive line that will be giving opposing quarterbacks fits all season long. NCAA second-team All-America selection, Ashea Robertson is a welcomed returnee. Robertson recorded a team leading 14 quarterback sacks for the season.

"We'll have to count on individuals like Ashea to lead us," said MacDougall.

Offensively, the Wolves will start the year with incredible depth at running back.

"We are deep at tailback and have some good prospects," MacDougall said. "I think we will be able to move the ball."

One of this year's top freshmen prospects at running back is Lockport High School's Craig Duppong.

Craig had eight touchdown games on two separate occasions for the Lockport Porters during the course of an impressive prep-football career.

"I am excited about the 2000 season," stated MacDougall. "Community college football, in my opinion remains one of the purest forms of collegiate football. If you can create a strong team to succeed and the student athletes do

what they are supposed to do, that's the fun part."

Our job as coaches is to get them from Step A, to Step B and, finally, to Step C."

WOLVES SCHEDULE 2000

- Sept. 22 at home against Harper College
- Sept. 30 away against Iowa Central College
- Oct. 7 at home against Rock Valley College
- Oct. 14 away against College of Dupage

Athlete of the Week: Crystal Hoinacki

By: Andre Pope

Recently, Crystal Hoinacki has displayed the type of talent to become the "Athlete of the Issue."

On Sept. 13 in a game against Rock Valley, Hoinacki had nine kills and six digs, helping to lead the Lady Wolves to a 1-56, 1-5 and a 1-52 victory. Her tenacious attitude on the court has helped to direct the Lady Wolves' overall record to 8-4 and 2-0 in the NAC conference.

Hoinacki's first became interested in the sport at a young age due to her sister's influences. She joined the volleyball team at Lemont Grade School in 7th grade and has been playing the middle position ever since.

Her career flourished as she helped to lead the Lemont High School girls volleyball team towards victory. She led the team to a 35-1 record while captain.

"According to Hoinacki, she realized that the team looked towards her as a role model. "I couldn't take all the credit. My teammates and I were like a puzzle," she said.

"We all fit together uniquely.

When it was time for us to be a well-oiled machine, we were as unified as can be."

During the summer, Crystal participates in an activity known as "Club Ball." This summer league for volleyball players helps them achieve attainable goals for helping their game.

The labor off the court was done in an effort to make strides in the regular season.

The league starts in late June and ends in August. This helps Crystal to be in great condition for the beginning of the season.

"It's a good experience for anyone. You gain maturity, responsibility, independence and social skills. The most difficult part of it is learning how to accept criticism and the hardworking," stated Hoinacki.

Throughout the rest of the season, Hoinacki wants to continue her great play.

With the skills that she has shown in past years as a leader and a player, it looks like the team will have a great future with her in the middle.

By Dave Parker

JOLIET — For the first time since 1982, Joliet Junior College has started a football season by winning its first three games. By virtue of the Wolves' 21-7 North Central Community College Conference win over the College of Dupage on Sept. 16 at Joliet Memorial Stadium, JJC stands 3-0 both overall and in the conference.

"The kids are buying into our system. They are working hard, learning how to practice and learning how to win," said Head Coach Bob MacDougall after Saturday's win over the Chaparrals (12-0, 2-0).

MacDougall, a National Junior College Athletic Association Football Hall of Famer, coached at Dupage for 21 seasons where he brought the school into national prominence on the gridiron.

During MacDougall's 21 years at the school, Dupage won 174 games, captured 11 Region IV state championships and eight NAC crowns. He also set the all-time NCAA football winning streak of 36 straight games.

Leading the offensive charge for Joliet Junior College against College of Dupage was sophomore

running back Darryl Hill.

The 5'10", 185-pound Hill was magnificent in rushing for 241 yards on 32 carries. Hill, who was named the NAC Player of the Week for his 107 yards rushing and two touchdowns during a 45-0 win over Rock Valley on Sept. 9, scored on 10 runs of 12 and 6 yards against Dupage.

"Our offensive line (Rob Stazak, Frank Smith, Chad Fisher, Matt Griebel, Mike Lamb) did well at the point of attack."

Coach MacDougall

"Darryl had a fine performance against Dupage. He ran hard and received some line blocking from fullback Adam Anderson and the offensive line," MacDougall said.

"Our offensive line (Rob Stazak, Frank Smith, Chad Fisher, Matt Griebel, Mike Lamb) did well at the point of attack."

Joliet Junior College freshman halfback Craig Duppong, who rushed for 93 yards against Rock Valley, had another strong effort against Dupage.

Duppong, who tallied a 12-yard touchdown run, added 103 yards on 17 carries.

For the game, the Wolves rushed for 349 yards (5.8 yards per carry) and had 410 total yards.

"Any time you have two backs like Darryl and Craig capable of doing what they did, it helps the offense," MacDougall said. "Both runners remained fresh."

Defensively, the Wolves' limited Dupage to just 47 yards rushing, a 1.9 yard per carry average. Sophomore defensive lineman Travis Moten led Defensive Coordinator Joe Roman's D with a fumble recovery, two knocked down passes and quarterback sack.

Joliet Junior and Ashea Robertson also had quarterback sacks.

JJC freshman safety Charles Frazier intercepted a Dupage pass to set up Duppong's touchdown with 37 seconds left in the third quarter. Duppong's score and John Gockman's PAT gave Joliet a 14-7 lead.

The JJC Wolves are scheduled to host nationally-ranked Harper College at 7 p.m. Sept. 22, in a conference game at Joliet Memorial Stadium.

Tennis looking to make a run

By Tony Ciampa

Women's tennis is back and the Lady Wolves are ready to make a run for the Division III National Tournament again.

In their first competition of the year, the Lady Wolves started things off with a victory over Rock Valley. Currently, their overall record is 6-1. The season is young and the Wolves are hungry to go back to nationals.

Last year was an exceptional year for the team. The Lady Wolves ended the season by placing fourth in the national tournament.

Other accolades were given to Erin Shy and Brenna Ohlson, who placed second in No. 1 doubles in the national tournament to earn NCAA Division III second team All-American.

With these two players returning, the Lady Wolves look to continue their winning ways.

Another sophomore coming back this year is Kim Love. Last year Love played at No. 6 in singles and No. 3 on doubles.

She should make a push this year with the loss of top player Felicia Randle, who transferred to another college this year.

Some of the new additions to the team are Masha Romadina, Meghan Fae and Erin MacFarland. Head Coach Tim Vandaveil says the new additions to the team should help, but there is still opening on the team for anyone who is interested in playing for the team.

You can reach him by calling (815) 729-2486.

In upcoming weeks the Lady Wolves will be challenging one of their bigger rivals in the area, the Illinois Valley Community College at home.

The matches will begin at 2:30 P.M. on Sept. 20, at JJC's main campus.

Grid Iron Grudge-Duh Bears!

By Tony Ciampa

Whatever happened to the Bears?

I'm talking about the 1985 Bears - "The Monsters of the Midwest." What we have now is the Pandas of the Midwest.

After recently seeing the Bears lose again to the New York Giants 14-7, I proclaim that I shall be putting my resume into the team for a general manager position.

My resume does proceed me. I have years of experience in fantasy football. Last year I practically dominated. My first draft shall be to get rid of Curtis Enis.

If there was an opening as big as two car lengths, he would still find a way to not make it to the endzone. Our quarterback, Chad McNown has run for the most yards on the team. What does that say for Enis?

Since we cannot trade him in, like a used car, I have decided to give him a one-way ticket to the New Orleans Saints. He should be

My first duty shall be to get rid of Curtis

thankful Ditka does not coach the Saints anymore because he would not take him.

My second brainstorm for this season's team is to abolish the whole defensive line. Over the summer we spent millions of dollars on overhauling the defense to no avail.

Against the Giants they gave up 171 yards rushing and no sacks from the line. I hate to say it, but I could have done this well and I was sitting on my couch.

Of course, the defensive line was so late as to where the hall was it looked like a Three Stooges movie. My main problem as a coach is how do I solve all of these

problems. I could yell alot.

Although, I don't think a 175 pound guy is gonna strike fear in them. If I could do one thing I would change contractual agreements with the players. It would be performance based.

Excuse me, Cad McDowell did you just overthrew Marcus Robinson for a touchdown? That will be a thousand dollars.

See, I think players should be in overabundance if they knew the money could be taken away at any moment.

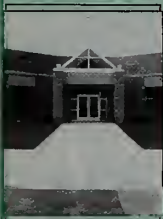
Where would all the money go? How about back into the pockets of the 66,000 fans that paid to see a lame team. With that money you buy playoff tickets for the White Sox. At least there is one winning team in Chicago.

What I want is the "Grabowski's" back. I want the "Super Bowl Shuffle." I want Jim McMahon, Gary Fencik and Walter Payton. I WANT A WINNING FOOTBALL TEAM!!

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North Campus
future looking
bright

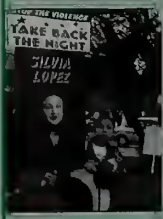
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Pearl Jam rocks Alpine

Page 10

Administrative decision derails season

by Michelle Tarrant
and Kaylee Van Hoose

Joliet Junior College administrators recently acknowledged that they knew in February that the JJC football team was in violation of conference rules, but said they did not report the violation at that time because they didn't want to punish the players who were not aware of the violation.

In mid-October JJC officials announced that they were imposing self-sanctions on the program because the team violated conference rules by using too many out-of-state players.

"We allowed the players to play recognizing that they had no place to go," said Vice President of Student Services Dr. Alan Hardersen. "We didn't want to jeopardize their academic records."



JJC Vice President of Student
Services, Dr. Alan Hardersen

were announced. Because of the forfeitures the team had to decline the invitation to the Pepsi Bowl. While the team's on-field record is 8-1, it's official record stands at 2-7 because of the forfeits.

The new conference rule, instituted in 1999, states that only eight players from out of state are allowed to play football for the college. The JJC football team was over the limit by six players in 1999. That number of players was carried over into the 2000 season.

"Essentially we understood that we may be put in a position where sanctions would be imposed," Hardersen said. "And at the end of the season it would be put to rest." New sanctions imposed on the team by the school will allow only six out-of-state players as opposed to the conference eight.

"We knew that the conference knew about it," said Wayne King, director of athletics. "When we were five and five (in 1999) it wasn't a big issue for the conference to discuss."

The issue was brought to Hardersen in February 2000 when

King and Bob MacDougall, head football coach, knew the team was in violation of the conference regulation.

"We (MacDougall and King) sat down with the president (J.D. Ross) and discussed what the options were," Hardersen said. He also said the administration came up with three specific options for the team.

"This is one of those decisions where every answer is wrong," said Hardersen. "No matter what we decided, we knew the answer would be wrong."

He also pointed out that one of the options was to tell players they weren't on the conference list because of the new rule and couldn't return to the school and play this fall.

"Another was to make and appeal to the conference for an increase in the number of out-of-state players," he said. "We made an appeal and that was voted down, recognizing that Harper and C.O.D. would be at a disadvantage."

Realizing that several of the out-of-state players would have nowhere to go, Hardersen said that the last option was "to allow the players to play" at the risk of being sanctioned by the conference. "We made the decision as a group," he explained.

This choice was made with the knowledge of several members of the administration and the JJC Board of Trustees.

"The Board of Trustees expressed complete support for the actions that the college took," said D.J. Wells, of the JJC Community Relations Department.

Hardersen, King and Wells all agreed that the decision was made in the best interests of the players

considering that there are only four community colleges in Illinois that offer football. Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Wisconsin are neighboring states that do not offer community college football programs.

"The Board of Trustees expressed complete support for the actions that the college took," said D.J. Wells, community relations department

"We knew players were unaware," Hardersen said. "They were totally oblivious to this."

King also voiced that there was "dejection on players behalf because they did nothing wrong."

Several of the JJC football players expressed a variety of opinions on what has happened to the team's record this season.

"I am quite disgusted with the whole situation and it is a crying shame that this whole team has to suffer," said Matthew Griebel, a JJC football player. "I feel that all we have to do is stick together and we will overcome any adversity that stands in our way."

Other players played the blame elsewhere. "It was a mistake that happened last year," said a player who wished to remain anonymous. "We had a lot of out-of-state players and the coaches decided to stick with them."

According to the administration, several steps are being taken to ensure that this type of incident will be prevented in the future. "Corrective action will be taken to prevent this from ever happening again," said Wells.

King said recruiting standards need to be observed and evaluated to prevent future problems.

Lecture on election 2000 huge success

by Kaylee Van Hoose

On Oct. 25 students and faculty attended The Brown Bag Series lecture on Election 2000 presented by Professor Edward Senu-oke. The lecture educated about campaign strategy, political ideology, policies, and crime and safety.

Senu-oke also discussed issues such as government reforms, the economy, social issues and immigration and trade.

Senu-oke urged that all campaign staff include a campaign manager, speechwriter, a legal advisor and a press secretary to deal with the media.

Also, candidates regularly use paid media such as generic ads that send positive messages to voters.

It may include places for achievement, testimonial by a powerful person, policies with a theme or sport such as taxes and inspiration such as military involvement.

Senu-oke also stressed that to insure victory, candidates must have a campaign strategy. They must use media effectively, develop southern strategy, avoid emotion-laden issues, emphasize consensus issues, win large key states, and avoid becoming the issue.

Senu-oke stressed that candidates must avoid dealing with gen-

der and race issues, and to focus on good issues such as education.

"You can't sell something that people have already bought," he said.

Senu-oke also said the two main candidates, Gov. Bush and Vice President Gore should recognize that the Green Party candidate Ralph Nader is in the race.

"It is important that you never underestimate the adversary of your own opponent," said Senu-oke.

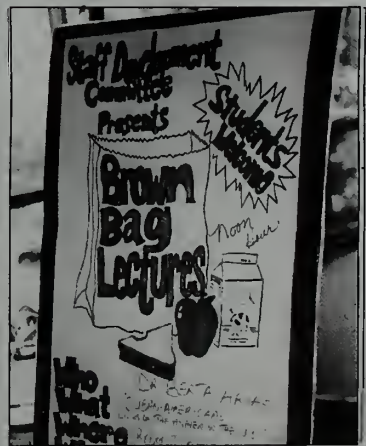
Also Senu-oke said that Bush should not go around talking about huge money because "most people are not mathematicians."

Senu-oke emphasized that winning is everything and the candidates should always be on the same page of dealing with issues, although views may not be the same.

"Win first, then figure out how to govern," Senu-oke said. "Don't be so smart that you're not."

He expressed enthusiasm of the election 2000 because of the closeness of the race.

"This is one of the closest elections in American history," Senu-oke said. "The ultimate prize is the victory."



A poster advertises Brown Bag lectures at JJC

Photo Laura Murphy

Opinion

Tips offered on how to ward off those pesky bugs

Ah. Fall has arrived. The leaves are turning into gorgeous colors that blaze across the sunset at dusk.

The air is fresh, brisk and smells like burning leaves. Oh, how I love to hear the crackle of leaves beneath my feet.

When I decided to go outside last week to sit out on my back porch and have a smoke on a mild fall evening, little did I know all hell would break loose.

As I pulled my cigarette from its box and reached with my other hand to light the cancer stick up, I jumped out of my porch swing and proceeded to try and pull this alien creature off my hand.

It was a little, brown, annoying, ugly and overperpetuated ASIAN LADYBUG.

Those damn things are everywhere! Where did they come from? Why are they here?

Do they really cause bad luck when you squash their beetle bug brains out? I was determined to find out the facts on these annoying

creeps that coat the sides of my house.

As I tried to swat the thing off my hands, it bit me!

The next thought that crossed my mind was along the lines of "You're dead meat bucko."

So, I proceeded to swat at the six-legged insect that chomps on human flesh, and was severely disappointed to see the stupid thing outsmart me and fly away.

Use a can of hairspray. It makes them stick to the wall and die a horrible oxygen-less death.

A few days and a few ladybug bites later, I was listening to some talk radio in my car. The show was all about the lady-killers, their fierce biting and the superstition that follows them. A few callers phoned in to tell stories of peril and bad luck that came after killing one



Clip-n-Save

By Michelle Tarrant

of these things.

Yeah right. Bad luck? Please. How moronic. Are people actually checking this up to seriousness? I just assumed total coincidence played a part in this bug ordeal.

Drop them in the toilet. It's fun to do.

So, there I was. Still waiting for the opportunity to kick the crap out of one of these bugs, when suddenly one crawled up between the keyboard as I was checking some email at home. I slowly waited for the tiny, stupid and soon-to-be-killed ladybug to creep its way off the keyboard and onto the table.

The next few moments were dizzying. CRUNCH. Success! I squashed him! I pulverized him! I

mooshed and squashed the life out of him!

All of a sudden, during my "I killed the bug dance," my finger got wedged

in the corner of the chair and was pinched in there until I started to bleed. Yelling the word "MOM" at the top of my lungs seemed sufficient.

Those stupid people were right. Those dumb bugs do cause bad luck. Well, to solve this problem, I started to kill them in new and interesting ways. I'd kill the unlucky bugs indirectly, and bad luck would be sure to not come my way.

How to kill the ladybugs:
1) Use a can of hairspray. It makes them stick to the wall and die a horrible oxygen-less death. Hehe!
2) Drop them in the toilet. It's fun to do. Watch them attempt to swim and get out of this mess. Ha ha.

Then, when all seems calm, FLUSH! Sinara suckers.

Bust out the vacuum my friends, it's time to suck up some bugs.

3) (This is my favorite) Bust out the vacuum my friends, it's time to suck up some bugs. Imagine the feeling of being sucked into a vortex only to be thrust into a black pit with no air and lo! of's hair.

Die ladybugs DIE!
Well, so far, I've used all these methods to assassinate our fellow friends. Sure, they were brought here to help kill other insects, but who's bright idea was that?

Who seriously would think, (please read the next sentence sarcastically) "Oh, they'd be great job killing the other bugs... what a great idea... la, they're so cute!"

Cute my butt.
Hand me the vacuum! I got some cleaning to do.

Doesn't Ralph Nader deserve a chair at the debates?

I watched the TV anxiously, waiting for the opposition to strike again with a cheap shot while the other side stares blankly with a glazed look on his face looking for answers.

DING DING DING!! Back to your corners! The moderator ends the fierce two-minute round. This scene almost seems comical to me.

Do you know what scene I'm talking about? YES! The presidential debates. Personally, I was very much amused by watching the two candidates Vice-President Al Gore and Texas Gov. George W. Bush battling it out on national television during three debates.

Maybe I have paid more attention to the issues if they were not being overshadowed by the candidates' facial expressions, body language and random comments that drew more attention



Shufflin' Words

By Kaylee Van Hoose

than maybe the issues itself.

Gore sighed loudly into his microphone while slouching and rolling his eyes when Bush attempted to make a point. Bush would snap back about "fuzzy Washington math."

A question that pondered my thoughts was why Ralph Nader didn't have the opportunity to debate.

Yeah, maybe he didn't receive enough percentage of votes from each state, but I may be right when I say that the young people really are flocking to this man behind the scenes.

At a recent Pearl Jam concert in Alpine Valley, fans held scribbled signs supporting Ralph Nader that said "Let Nader Debate!"

Neither Gore nor Bush has really made an effort to appeal to the votes of young people in the rest of the country.

Where do we fit in? I've heard one or two comments about financial aid for college education, yet neither has expanded on how this will be done.

Nader feels that education is primarily the responsibility of state and local government. He stands among the "Generation Youth," not

above them.

Nader has been addressing the smaller concerns other than the huge Middle East crisis.

Neither Gore nor Bush has really made an effort to appeal to the votes of young people.

His concern includes problems of child poverty right here in the

U.S. He's starting small, and working his way up.

The other candidates seem to be losing themselves in a cluttered mess desperately trying to find their way out.

Maybe they do have more experience with handling the big issues, but shouldn't Nader be counted too?

Is it true that my vote won't really count if I choose to vote for Ralph Nader?

According to Democrats and Gore supporters, by voting for Ralph Nader people are only taking votes away from Al Gore and helping Gov. Bush walk into the White House, directly benefiting from Gore's loss of the traditional Democratic votes that Nader represents.

But if it is our right to vote, then we shall use our vote any way we please. Our vote will count.

Blazer Editorial

Radical group needs to get facts straight

On Oct. 17, some sick and disturbing people invaded JJC's Main Campus.

The small group was seen throughout the parking lots dispensing paper flyers on the windshields of cars for a few hours.

They waited for people to read their "information" and continued to wait for the next group of student cars to shuffle into class.

The flyers that were distributed had misinformation about AIDS and the gay community.

The Blazer feels that the "facts" this group posted were misleading and ambiguous.

We will not name this extreme group because they

probably would like the publicity.

Instead, we will give the true facts about homosexuality and AIDS; the facts that they missed and twisted into their own obsolete information.

The facts presented were as disturbingly wrong as the people who went through all the trouble to dispense them.

They claimed that the group of individuals with the highest incidence of the HIV virus are white homosexual men.

They also stated that they are the highest growing number of individuals infected with the disease.

The flyer also claimed that persecution of these

individuals who spread AIDS is the only answer.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, men who sleep with men do indeed account for the highest number of AIDS cases.

The small group was seen throughout the parking lots dispensing paper flyers...

Contradictory to the flyer, that number is on the decline.

Blacks and Hispanic individuals are now among the growing number of people infected with the disease.

Almost 300,000 AIDS cases alone were linked to blacks and over 300,000 Caucasian people are reported to have the virus.

The flyer also stated that

young male adults who are gay have the highest number of AIDS cases by age.

Yet, according to the CDC, individuals between the ages of 30-45 have the highest number of AIDS cases.

Another fuzzy fact that was espoused on the flyer was that gay women are the highest number of infected females.

Again, the CDC states that "heterosexual women are becoming increasingly affected by HIV."

Approximately 46 percent, about 14.8 million of the 32.4 million adults living with HIV or AIDS, are women.

Instead of dispersing

unclear facts about the disease, this sick group of people should have spent some time on education and prevention of AIDS.

There are centers and facilities full of information on the virus along with steps to actively prevent a case from happening close to home.

It makes us sick to think that there are still people out there with shallow minds and the gall to actually go out of their way to try to make people hate homosexuals.

We hope that presenting these real facts of the issues of AIDS and homosexuality will help to clear up some of the misconceptions.

Improv is good word play- Cummings says so

As of late, I have become so bored and disgusted with the way society is treating everything and everyone, that my rant against these atrocities is a shameless plug to make people wake up from this everlasting definition of how we are suppose to act in our lives.

At work recently, I was carrying a rather heavy box when I did not notice that something was in front of my path; the wall. In colliding with the corner of the wall, I lost control of the box and dropped it directly on to my foot. My first reaction was to scream in pain as any normal person would. I didn't yell "owwww" or shake my foot. I yelled, "F@%!"

This was not in reference to anybody. It was just a scream at the pain throbbing through my now swelling foot. Well, the store manager overheard this expulsion of words and took it upon herself to

point out how vile a person I am for talking that way. Being the type of person I am, I went on the defense to argue my point on how wrong she is to think that my swearing is such a disgusting thing.

After all, this was probably coming from a person who paid \$6.50 to see "Lethal Weapon 4" and walked out saying that it was one of the best movies she had ever seen.

I pointed out to her how much of a unnecessary reaction society had made upon her to think that she was right because her parents had taught her in her upbringing that swearing was wrong. Had she not heard the saying "sticks and stones



Sigh of the times

By Tony Ciampa

will break my bones, but words will never harm me."

People have construed what is right and wrong for too long in the evolution of human kind. I don't see people criticizing E.E. Cummings anymore for his idea that a word is a feeling and it should be said as you please. The man made up his own words. Is it because of his greatness that he is an exception to this word play?

A word will hold meaning to many different people as does an action to that word. Don't try to explain to me that your idea is right

of what society has embedded in your head. She glanced at me like I was blurring psychobabble. How was I gonna get through to Mrs. Tipper Gore Jr? I decided to attack with a new and more easily amusing approach.

Swearing has become the most acceptable form of language in this country right now. The top selling albums, movies, or the TV show that may shock with its declaration of how someone's ass looks is what people want to hear. It is a showing of exuberance towards an

emotion. When I screamed, "F@%!" It was the same as saying such or damn. I don't care what the word means to you. I know what the expression of feelings meant to me at the time.

This argument is a healthy statement of where our society needs to end up. People need to stop belittling what someone says on TV or in front of you at work. Swearing is a way to color up a boring sentence. Anything that adds life to a sentence is a good thing in my opinion.

My argument ended up with her walking away rolling her eyes at my appointed proclaming of what is right about swearing. My hopes are that this opens people's eyes and makes them react with understanding. Swearing is part of natural speech. Change with the time because time is ever changing. Write to t_ciampa@hotmail.com.

Internet radio stations sound like freedom

by Matt Furlane

When techno/ambient/blues musician Moby came to Chicago to perform at the Aragon (filling it twice) he was reported to have referred to rock music as being old and depressing.

If it's true I'll second that opinion. For years the regular radio has fed us a steady diet of mass produced overly commercialized three chord rehash. It's time for a change.

Now with the internet anyone can explore a wide variety of musical genres ranging from

African pop, Classical, and Jazz to Reggae, Ska Punk, and Techno.

There is now a freedom of choice from the depressing old rock and roll traditions.

There are three sites that I visit most. The first and currently most popular destination you can go to is:

www.spinner.com

Once you download the free radio player you will have access to the entire world of music. Plus interviews and live performances. In addition you can get different layouts for your player called

There is now a freedom of choice from the depressing old rock and roll traditions.

"skins". Spinner also powers Netscape radio which can be accessed at www.netscape.net.

The second site is even better: www.gogaga.com

This site is original and interesting to tour through. It's strength is it's selection of music, a devotion to the musician, and a devotion to the listeners who want something better. New listeners are warned with this message, "Welcome to GoGaGa.com, a

destination devoted to solving one of lifes biggest questions: Where do I go to hear some good music!"

"GoGaGa is taking you where traditional radio can't. Gone are the tiny playlists that demand the same songs be played over and over. Gone are the endless sets of commercials. GoGaGa explores and celebrates artists regardless of their top 40 status."

It's about time.

The final site to check out is: www.irfu.com also known as www.stitch.com

Radio Free Underground! (RFU)

This site has evolved over the last two years to provide it's listener's with the best of Electronics.

Go to the "Mixamatics" button and click then check the types of music you want to hear and enjoy.

I'm always looking for a specific sound and RFU has everything. Techno, Trance, Ambient, Gothic, Industrial, and even some 80's stuff. You need Real Player to listen but it's free and worth the time.

You can look at their complete play list and buy the CD's.

Question of the Issue

"Do you think you are well informed about the candidates in the upcoming 2000 presidential elections?"



"Yes and no. I think I am more informed than some. There are certain key issues that both candidates kind of dance around."

Rachel Burton - Sophomore 23



"No I feel that no one really knows what they should. We should have view books containing information about the candidates and their goals." Miguel Lopez - Sophomore 20



"Yes informed enough to feel that the candidates are not concentrating on issues concerning college students."

Philip Gloeckner - Sophomore 20



"No because I have not taken the time to examine the issues and without having done so, I feel it necessary that I refrain from voting in the election. I'm not even registered." Stephen Higgins - Sophomore 29



"No, because there has not been any propaganda in relation to the presidential election within the school." Touth Levent - Sophomore 25



"No, I'm busy with life and I don't have time." Sheryl Muth - Sophomore 23

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The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters. Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and the sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through inter-office or regular mail, or drop them off at the Blazer office at 6-1009.

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North campus progresses with new millennium

by Tony Ciampa

When JJC opened the North Campus in an effort to bring more opportunities for residents of outlying Will County, it opened with the goal of trying to bring as much of Main Campus to North Campus.

The North Campus student enrollment has been on the rise as compared with main campus because of an increase in students who are taking classes there every year.

This year campus enrollment increased by three percent, and in what is usually a slow time during the summer, North Campus parking lots packed bumper to bumper.

With the signs showing the need to develop more for the students at North Campus, efforts are being made.

Some of the goals that have been accomplished in recent years are the hiring of full-time teachers and the opening of CLECO based classes, which are some of the more attended classes in the area.

These efforts alone have led to even more addition to accommodate students for the year.

At JJC North Campus, students can take compass testing, ESL classes, adult basic classes and also weekly tutoring.

Most students never look at these great opportunities that are right in their backyards.

Also, North Campus is set up to help Illinois Institute of Technology students who wish to not go to Chicago for lectures. Students can do distant learning through the satellite connection with IIT campus.

"A Tradition for Tomorrow" is exemplifying North Campus

"What we are trying to do is open doors for students from towns outside of Joliet; such as, Lemont, Bolingbrook, Romeoville, Lockport," said Head Dean of North Campus, Michael Townsend. "We want to offer a variety of things for our communities outside Joliet."

In the upcoming year, some of the new exciting things that may evolve or are going to be offered at North Campus are the Spring 2001 Career Labeled Program that will go towards a certificate of completion and Fast Track in Business.

The Career Labeled Program is a program to help students who wish to earn a certificate of completion for classes such as hotel/restaurant management and C++.

Once students complete one of these classes, they can put this knowledge directly to use because of the certificate. This is a great

opportunity for part-time students. The Fast Track program in business gives students who work full-time jobs an opportunity to go to class every Saturday to work towards earning a degree.

The program is two years long and is in partnership with business department.

These opportunities allow even the busiest person a chance to further his education.

There are other issues North Campus officials are talking about changing. One is becoming more accessible for the students.

There is discussion about adding a hot cafe and more classes to the already expanding list at the campus.

North Campus has made it easier for students to let the school know their desires and needs by setting up an e-mail address in hopes of letting students know they are important.

Students can contact North Campus and let their opinion count by e-mailing northcampus71@hotmail.com.

At Joliet Junior College, the quote for the school has always shown the direction the school is moving for its students.

This year's quote of "A Tradition for Tomorrow" is exemplifying what is being accomplished that future at North Campus.



The North Campus Building faces a bright future at JJC.

SPRING 2000 REGISTRATION

Early Registration:

Nov. 8 and 9 from 2-8 p.m.

Regular Registration hours:

Start Nov. 13 from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE REGISTRATION OFFICE: If you have deleted yourself from your course registration will no longer have a record of courses you were deleted from. If you wish to re-enroll in the same schedule you **MUST KNOW** the classes you were registered for or you will have to choose a new schedule.

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Features

Presidential debates highlight both candidates

by Joe Chinderle

On Oct. 17, the third and last presidential debate was held in St. Louis.

Many feel that Vice President Al Gore and Texas Gov. George W. Bush did an outstanding job in presenting their views on important issues into the forefront.

During the debate, Gore attacked Bush as being an ally of the rich and powerful, but the Texas governor rebutted in a fast paced debate that had G.W. accusing the vice president of being a big spender.

"If this were a spending contest, I'd come in second," Bush said.

Gore made several points to point out that the Texas governor supports mostly wealthy citizens and insurance companies, instead of the patients.

"If you want someone who will support the big drug companies, this is your man," Gore said to

the audience. "If you want someone who fight for you then I want to fight for you."

In this type of town-hall-style debate, questions were given to the candidates from the audience.

When the question of education was brought to the attention, Gore took aim at Bush's support for school vouchers.

Bush replied that his education would allow states to decide whether they want to implement vouchers, and Gore challenged him by claiming that Bush's own education plan would have the federal government require states to provide vouchers for students in failing schools.

In a debate that covered many campaign topics, the death penalty issue was brought up by one of the audience members about a statement Bush gave at the previous debate that was held Oct. 11.

In his statements about the murder of James Byrd, the governor said, "the three men accused of

murder will get the highest penalty, the death penalty."

Not even before he could get the last syllable out of his mouth, the governor had to keep the grin from appearing on his face.

The audience member asked Bush if he was proud of his state's record of executing more criminals than any other.

"I'm not proud of that," Bush said in a soft-spoken reply. "Some of the hardest moments since I've been the governor of Texas is to deal with those cases."

Several times he stressed that he wasn't proud, but merely carrying out his job as governor. In all, Texas has executed 145 inmates during Bush's tenure as governor.

The subject then changed to economics. Bush said Gore is proposing the "largest increase in federal spending in years, and there's just not going to be enough money" to pay for it.

Gore said Bush was wrong, adding that his rival's \$1.3 billion

tax plan would only give relief to the wealthy while not funding some domestic programs.

This debate might make a difference in this close presidential race

"If you want somebody who believes that we were better off eight years ago than we are now and that we ought to go back to the kinds of policies that we had back then, emphasizing tax cuts mainly for the wealthy, here is your man," Gore said.

"If you want somebody who will fight for you and will fight for middle class tax cuts, then I am your man. I want to be."

Bush said he wasn't wrong and Gore's proposals on spending were huge.

"He proposed more than Walter Mondale and Michael Dukakis combined," claimed Bush. "This is a big spender, he should be proud of it."

In their final statements, the candidates went to essentials.

"I have kept my word," said Gore, who has served as the vice president for the past eight years. He talked about being in Vietnam and said that the last eight years have brought economic prosperity and reduced crime.

In his final statement to the audience, Gore said, "I'll make you one promise here: You ain't seen nothing yet, and I will keep that promise."

Gov. Bush got the last word. "I think after three debates the good people of this country understand there is a difference," Bush said.

He also said the difference between a big government and someone who is coming from outside Washington who will trust individuals.

After two debates without decisive moments, this was the one that might make a difference in this very close race.

Green Party candidate comes to Chicago

by Michelle Tarrant

Ralph Nader, the 2000 Green Party candidate for President of the United States, was in Chicago Oct. 10 to speak to students at the University of Illinois Chicago Campus. According to a CNN poll, Nader appeals to most young voters, due to his strong views on domestic policies.

Chosen as one of the 100 most influential people of the 20th century, Nader has helped to create better laws and regulations for seatbelts, the Clean Air Act, air bags and the "Freedom" of

Information Act.

On Nader's website, www.votenerd.com, his "non-voter tour" hopes to reach out to the disaffected voters who are generally young people.

Nader also states on his website that "Jesse Ventura's third party candidacy showed us in Minnesota, that the right candidate who speaks about the issues the other parties don't care about, can mobilize and bring younger voters to the voting booths."

Nader also said that he is currently "all for getting corporate

money out of the political system," and currently accepts no corporate contributions to his campaign.

Nader also stresses the importance of equal human rights. While on the campaign trail, he stated his support of the new law in Vermont, allowing same-sex marriages.

"I think homosexuals have the right of civil union. There are economic reasons for that and there are humanitarian reasons for that, and I think the Vermont decision is a good one, and I think homosexuals should be given equal rights and equal responsibilities."

by Kaylee Van Hooser

Harry Browne is the Libertarian candidate for the Presidential Elections 2000. He was a successful investment advisor for 30 years and has written 11 books. In 1996, he was the nominee of the Libertarian Party for President of the United States.

According to his campaign website, he wants to take the federal government out of every area. He feels it's made such a mess including health care, education, law enforcement, welfare, foreign aid, corporate welfare, highway bondfollies, farm subsidies because he feels that these programs are unconstitutional "do tremendous damage to our lives."

His goal is to make the federal government so small people won't pay any income tax. He also would like to free the nation of the Social Security system.

He plans to end Prohibition by stopping the War on Drugs and wants to restore the right to keep

"I want to reduce the growth of government drastically." - Harry Browne

and bear any weapon necessary to use in defense.

He wishes not to appoint Supreme Court judges who are "strict constructionists" or who divine "original intent."

He would like to appoint judges who can read the plain language of the Constitution — who understand that when the Constitution says "Congress shall make no law," it means Congress shall make no law.

"In short, I don't want to slow the growth of government. I don't even want to stop the growth of government. I want to reduce government dramatically — to the limits imposed by the Constitution," said Browne.

Pat keeps on running

by Michelle Tarrant

Reform Party candidate Pat Buchanan has had a lot of preparation in making a name for himself in the 2000 Election.

He is currently running for the seat of President of the United States. Buchanan has also run for the Republican presidential nomination twice.

His views on abortion are strong. Buchanan said he would use every option necessary to "fight the Culture of Death" and appoint pro-life judges to the Supreme Court. He has a strong stance on the view that life begins at conception.

On equal rights and affirmative action, Buchanan once again has a strong view.

"Equal rights for all and special

"Equal rights for all and special rights for no one."

Pat Buchanan on affirmative action

rights for no one," he said during a recent interview. He believes that no government in America should have the authority to "discriminate against people because of the color of their skin." Buchanan also would like to push for a passage of a civil rights bill that ensures equal justice for all and special privilege for none.

Buchanan was a confidant and assistant to Richard M. Nixon. He was also a senior adviser to three U.S. presidents.

So you don't like presidents who really enjoy their interns. And sometimes you just can't understand those "fuzzy" numbers. Make your vote count. VOTE ON NOV. 7.

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Features

UPS Extreme Fest is extreme fun at JJC

by Tony Ciampa

In an opportunity to attract students to the potential that comes with working at the company United Parcel Services (UPS) "Xtremefest" was held on Oct. 10 and 11 in the G-parking lot at the Main Campus.

One of the attractions set up by UPS was "X-treme Air." This device simulates what it feels like to be in a free-fall, similar to sky diving, and was the biggest attraction at the event.

"It was a rush like I have never felt before," said JJC student Peter House of the "X-treme Air" simulator.

In another event sponsored by UPS, there was the opportunity to win a computer if a student could

solve a puzzle. Giant puzzle pieces were stacked outside of trucks and students were then asked to arrange them in the correct order. The fastest time won a free laptop computer.

The reason for the X-Fest was to attract students to the idea of getting involved in "The Earn and Learn Program" through UPS. According to brochures available at the event, students who work for UPS can get up to \$28,000 in education assistance.

Other benefits that come from this program are starting pay of \$8.50 an hour for the first 40 days of your management training, Half-month bonus, paid vacations, Healthcare benefits and annual/ bi-annual salary reviews.



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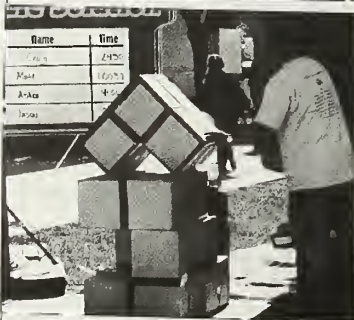
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Calendar of Events: Greenhouse, Catholic Campus Ministry and how to kick the habit

The JJC Greenhouse is currently selling mums of assorted colors. Two gallons for \$5 or 5 gallons for \$20 along with hanging mum baskets for \$15 are currently being sold as well. Greenhouse hours are from 8 a.m. until noon and from 1-3:30 p.m. For information call ext. 2511.

Newman Catholic Campus Ministry is still collecting school and play items for the children of Casa de Los Angeles in Mexico. The children are in need of books, tapes, videos in Spanish and

English, games, art supplies and more. Collection boxes are located in the D-Concourse, cafeteria, T-Entrance and the Bridge.

JJC Staff and students will be participating in decorating Christmas trees for the Joliet Area Community Hospice. If you would like information on this project contact Laney Huda at 815-727-5536 or via email at rhusha@aol.com.

The Will County Health Department in conjunction with the Tobacco Coalition is offering a

"Freedom from Smoking" course at JJC. Courses will be offered Nov. 6 12-1 p.m. and Nov. 13 and 20 from 12-1 p.m. in C-202. For information or to register call Jennifer Diefenbacher at 815-774-7395.

The JJC Fine Arts Department will host Fine Arts Career Day Nov. 15 for high school fine arts students.

The session will run from 8:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Art, home economics and faculty from the area high schools and JJC are invited to

attend. For information contact the Fine Arts Department at 815-280-2232. Registration deadline is Nov. 10.

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Will County is looking for "Santa helpers" to volunteer to take parents and children along for a train ride between Joliet and New Lenox. For information contact BBBS of Will County at 815-725-4324.

The JJC Herbert Truckman Planetarium proudly presents "Larry Cat in Space" Nov. 2 at 6:30

p.m. The show is intended for children ages 3-6. "Wonders of the Night" will also be shown Nov. 16 at 6:30 p.m.

The JJC Metalsmithing Class will be exhibiting and selling their handcrafted earrings, pins, rings, bracelets, necklaces, beads and ornaments in gold, silver, copper and semi-precious stones. The sale will be held in the cafeteria Nov. 16 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Phi Theta Kappa has scheduled a meeting on the Bridge Nov. 14 at 6 p.m.

Club Events for November

The Collegiate Club Council

Nov. 1
2:30 p.m.
J-0006 at 2:30 PM

4 p.m.
Nov. 17
Deadline for the Food/Pet supply drive
V-1016

1 p.m.
Student Center
Conference Group

Newman Club

Nov. 8
1 p.m.
C-concourse

Intervarsity
Large Group Warship
Every Friday
1:15 p.m.
G-2004
Prayer Meeting
Every Monday

Phi Theta Kappa
Nov. 3-5
Illinois Regional
Conference at Elgin
Community College.
Nov. 14
6:00 p.m.
Bridge

Vet Tech Club

Nov. 8

High school art students invited

The Joliet Junior College Fine Arts Department will host its biennial Fine Arts Career Day on Nov. 15 for high school fine arts students.

The activities will begin at 8:45 a.m. with registration and will conclude following a faculty luncheon hosted by the college at 1:30 p.m.

Art, home economics (fashion merchandising and interior

design), music speech and theatre faculty from the area and JJC are invited to attend.

There will be guest speakers, panel discussions and workshops dealing with numerous career opportunities in the Fine Arts for the future.

The event is highly educational and recommended for students seeking a career in the arts. Fine arts students and faculty

can make arrangements now to attend the career day.

The JJC Fine Arts Department is truly excited about the event and its potential impact.

If you have further questions or would like information on the Fine Arts Career Day event, please contact the arts department at 815-280-2232. Registration deadline is Nov. 10.

Do you think the parking lots are too small? Are you always late for that class and want a bridge to the T-building? It's your school. Express your opinions. E-mail The Blazer at blazer@jjc.cc.il.us. We're paid to listen.

Horoscopes

By: Matt Packard

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 22)

You are selfless, giving, smart, sweet, and truly special. So, why are you still alone? The stars say it is because you are exceedingly unattractive. Hideous, even.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)

Sagittarius says sit down. Sagittarius says rub your head. Sagittarius says clap. Shake your head. You're out.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Everything finally gets cleared up as it is revealed that is was, in fact, you who let the dogs out.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Remember at that party, when you danced all night, met all those cool people, and sang around a bonfire all night long? Boy, that was true happiness. Nothing like that will happen this week.

Pisces

Relax. Don't worry about it. It's not that big a deal. Sometimes things just slip your mind. Luckily, Pisces' Dawson's creek for you.

Aries

Don't listen to what people tell you. No matter what they say, they really aren't laughing with you.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Your boy friend is out of his mind. You don't even know any named Allen. Where does he hear this stuff? And besides, Allen was only there for like 10 minutes.

Gemini

Gemini isn't very happy with you right now. Gemini has nothing to say to you and would appreciate it if you would convert to another sign.

Cancer

You know however time things finally start to go your way and you feel like life is getting on track, something beyond your control destroys it all? You will.

Leo

You will be disappointed this week. How long can Sally run consecutive "send my teen to boot camp" episodes.

Virgo

You will be shocked by your significant other waiting for you on the front porch, craving your attention. Unfortunately, it is the Limp Bizkit album.

Libra

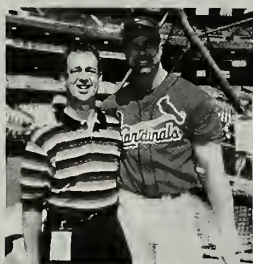
There is nothing wrong with "favors" you are performing for your boss to get ahead in the company. It's unfortunate, though, that it is not actually your new boss, but a lowly office cleaner honoring a double dog dare.

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Features

Community comes together to take back the night

On Oct. 10 thousands of people including family, friends, and supporters gathered at Joliet West High School to unite on behalf of victims of domestic violence to "Take Back the Night."

The community joined together to promote awareness in Will County of domestic violence, incest and rape for this fourth annual event in Joliet and welcomed Denise Brown, the sister of the slain Nicole Brown Simpson and also featured attorney Jim Glasgow.

Take Back the Night first started at a Germany University town in 1973 after a series of murders and rapes.

San Francisco started the march in 1978 and 5,000 women from 30 states gathered to protest about the violence against women. The march spread throughout the country.

Fifty-three female slaped picket signs bordered the sidewalk of Larkin Avenue representing 53 females that were murdered in Will County over the past 10 years. Each sign displayed the name and age of the victims.

As night grew colder, supporters made signs that voiced their opinions against violence.

White, yellow, blue and red T-shirts were displayed on a nearby clothing line each color representing a different abuse; white and yellow represented domestic violence, blue symbolized incest, and red portrayed rape.

A band played in the background as volunteers set up food stands and handed out bags of literature containing important information pertaining to violence awareness. Pink ribbons and Guardian Angel pins were distrib-



JJC takes back the night. TBN photos by Michelle Tarrant

uted among the massive crowd.

Family and friends of 28-year-old nurse, Melissa Plut of Joliet, and other nurses carried an 8-ft long banner in her memory. Plut was murdered in her Joliet home this past Sept. 3.

Nurses filled the area holding signs of protest such as "Nurses Fight Against Violence," and "JJC Nurses Against Domestic Violence." JJC Nursing 170 student, Christine wanted to "back up the nurses."

"In this country we're facing violence at an epidemic rate," said Glasgow. "It's something we need

to acknowledge."

He continued to speak against violence on television programs and the radio and claimed that this issue is "much more serious than we think."

"We need to wake up and say we can do something about it," stated Glasgow.

Last year, Dr. Dennis Embry spoke at the event. He claimed that a physiological change in the brain takes place in children due to the massive violence seen by children every day on television. This in turn creates a hereditary trait.

Like many people across the nation, Brown never thought something like this could ever happen to her. On June 12, 1994, Nicole Brown Simpson, 35-years-old, and friend, Ron Goldman, were murdered at her California home.

"I'm here under unfortunate circumstances," said Brown.

Soon after the murder of her sister, Brown was educated on "the monster" called domestic violence and started to work with a minority coalition program for battered women.

"I didn't know, understand, anything about domestic violence," she said.

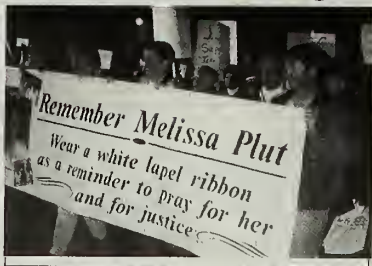
She was disturbed that women are punished so severely after defending themselves towards domestic violence.

"Women who tried to save their own lives are in there for 25 years to life," she said.

Brown also said that society needs to take responsibility of the children.

Children who are in violent homes will only learn violence and the community must learn to prevent it.

"They need to learn that hands are for shaking, playing



Participants hold banners at Take Back the Night



Denise Brown speaks out against violence toward women.

guitar, they need to learn the other side...the difference," she said. "The child is entitled to be safe and free from abuse and neglect."

Brown expressed to supporters, family, and friends of victims that they are not alone in loss and they are not alone in determination. She also said that battered women are "walking an emotional tightrope waiting to fall" and that it is difficult to be brave when scared.

She also voiced that 40 percent of women killed are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends, and 90 percent of the abusers are in fact male.

"We need the good guys to say that domestic violence is not acceptable," Brown said. "It's not the woman's problem; it's everyone's problem."

Four women die a day due to domestic violence. In addition, more than 2.5 million women are victims of some form of violence every year. Nearly two in three

female victims of violent crimes are related to or know their attacker.

"It needs to stop; it is a monster," she said.

According to Brown, many judges "make very bad decisions when it comes to family," commenting that due to those decisions, many people are dead.

"Please don't think there is nothing we can do," said Brown. "There is so much we can do."

She proposes a neighborhood watch program and that domestic violence should be a part of it.

"Remember what's right is right and what's wrong is wrong and that there is a difference between them both."

Brown led the march with her family as family of murder victims took their place behind them down Larkin Avenue and Jefferson Street to show the community that they will take back the night.

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Opinion

Letters to the editor

Another football fiasco: a JJC faculty member speaks out

Dear Editors,

Is there something about the nature of football that causes corruption? It would certainly seem so here at JJC.

While there is no doubt that the current college administration is the most decent and most dedicated to the well-being of Joliet Junior College that I have experienced in 33 years of teaching here, even they have been sucked into the moral morass that is football at JJC.

This past weekend it became public knowledge that the JJC team was breaking conference rules about the number of out-of-state players allowed on the team.

According to a statement released by the college administration, the school was aware of the violation at the beginning of the season.

The administration claimed they took no action, which would have prevented the handful of players who were in violation from playing this season, because it would have been unfair to those players who had given

their all for JJC last season (albeit while in violation of the rules) and because those players were not aware they were in violation when they were recruited.

Apparently, if someone hadn't blown the whistle, nothing would have been said. The press release seemed to imply that it's ok to cheat if you don't get caught and if you are doing it "for the kids."

My suspicion is the inaction was to cover up last year's violation and to create

We shouldn't be too surprised about this latest moral lapse, for football at JJC has a long, negative history.

positive PR for the school with a winning team this year. As it turned out, all "the kids" suffered, not just a handful.

And the PR was more

negative than would have been the case with an honest and timely handling of the violation.

The communication from the administration tries to give the impression that we blew the whistle on ourselves, but if this were the case why didn't we do it when the violation was known at the beginning of the season?

We shouldn't be too surprised about this latest moral lapse, for football at JJC has a long, negative history.

Remember the game that was suspended because the teams got into a fight, the fight continuing in the parking lot where fans were put in physical jeopardy?

Remember the year almost all the Pell money went to football players and thus other needy students went without?

How about the players who furnished their apartment with stolen furniture?

How about the coach who held a fund-raising raffle and then couldn't come up with the prize?

How about the hoots and catcalls when young women have passed wherever the team has gathered?

The list goes on and on, for the history of football at JJC is filled with such excess.

Isn't it about time we call a halt to this most expensive of sports? What has been the positive result of football at JJC?

A number of players have received scholarships at four-year schools. Also, when the team has been successful, not very common occurrence in the last 20 years, the college has received some positive PR in the sports pages of the Herald News.

But has this balanced out the negative impact on the college, the negative PR that has been the all too frequent result of football?

Hasn't there been a culture of corruption long associated with football at JJC?

Doesn't this latest incident remind us that football really doesn't belong at a community college?

Why do we need to recruit from out of state? If

there aren't sufficient players locally, shouldn't that tell us that we shouldn't be involved in football?

How can we justify such a large percentage of student activity funds going to one sport? Shouldn't we say "no" to football now before we invest in that on-campus stadium that has been proposed?

The administrative press release about this latest incident ends, "...we look forward to putting this incident behind us and reestablishing the proud tradition of Joliet Junior College football." The administration has either been blind to the history of football at JJC, or it finds pride in what most of us see as abominable—including the latest attempt at covering up rules violations. The time has come to end this long, inglorious tradition. It is time to put this all behind us. The only way to do that is to end football at JJC.

-Ted Thompson

Professor of English

Election coverage from last issue corrected

Dear Editors,

I was pleased to see coverage of the local political campaigns in Joseph Chindler's article in the Oct. 11, 2000 issue.

However, in the name of accuracy, I feel obliged to point out that the article's final paragraph incorrectly

identified Jeff Tomeczak as running for County Executive and Sue Riley as running for State's Attorney, while Riley is the Republican candidate for Recorder of Deeds.

Also, in the same article, I think that the wrong impression may be conveyed about Circuit Clerk candi-

Blazer set straight on local election candidates.

date, Dinah Lennon-Archambeault by your use of the phrase "has held office" to describe her prior legal experience.

Because her legal experi-

ence has primarily been in private practice, that fact would better be described by "has maintained an office."

-James Baskin

Attorney at Law and
Assistant Professor of
English

Joliet Junior College

Dear Editors,

I am disappointed that there is no support here for a soccer team.

My daughter has played competitive soccer since she was 8-years-old.

She is presently a freshman in high school. Soccer is saturated with people; people who have goals for their children.

She will go where there is good soccer, as well as a lot of other competitive sports players. They play, today, for their future, tomorrow.

Isn't the motto "Reach for the Promise of Tomorrow" on JJC's brochures? Soccer is "today's" popular sport.

It's more accessible to a larger number of kids than football, basketball or volleyball. JJC, apparently, is missing out on a good group of kids.

-You may use my thoughts but please keep my name anonymous.

Honor student lounge "ticks off" JJC student

Dear Editors,

Why doesn't someone write an article about the honors program's private lounge?

It chaps my hiney that all the smart kids get their own room, their own computer, their own couches, and all sorts of other cool stuff that

us "dumb" kids don't have access to.

I pay the same tuition as they do but they are larger their own room...what gives?

Ticked Off

-Tim Daly

Duck movie is good: Reader responds to movie review

Dear Editors,

I am writing against your so-called "friend" Lorraine Guerrero or whatever and her sucky review of one of the best movies ever, "Howard the Duck."

First of all, it is not a movie about a duck trying to get it on with a human female.

It's about a duck with an attitude who just wants to get back to his home planet after being forcefully taken to earth.

And also tell her she needs to learn how to write

okay?

The only reason I am defending "Howard the Duck" is cause I think it's a damn good movie and I recently have rented it and drank a 12-pack of Miller Lite.

Alcohol makes it a better movie.

By the way I am from JJC and I read the Blazer if you didn't guess already. Bye!

-Michael Billet

deputyblake@hotmail.com

Why no soccer?

Dear Editors,

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-You may use my thoughts but please keep my name anonymous.

Announcement:

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday the next Blazer will come out one week early on Nov. 15.



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CD REVIEW

Radiohead-Meshes Green Day-no punk here Pearl Jam/Live Bootlegs-a hot topic

by Matt Packard

CD Ratings:

- ***** - Excellent
- **** - Great
- *** - Good Tunes
- ** - Not worth the \$15
- * - Not worth the wax

Radiohead/Kid A

It has been rumored that a Capitol Records executive said that the company was expecting a "Dark Side of the Moon" from the art rock heroes, but got "Ummagumma." They should have known better.

How else could they follow the impressive commercial success and phenomenal critical praise of "OK Computer," without sounding like they were making a cheap imitation of their own album. Wisely, they decided to go exploring.

A considerable portion of the

album passes before they even attempt anything near a standard rock song.

The disc opens with the stroke of intrigue that is "Everything in Its Right Place." This track uses computerized vocal effects and keyboard work that come off closer to a trance than a song.

Most of the album follows suit. There is very little focus on vocal melody or catchy guitar riffs.

They mesh 10 different sonic concepts, each with a unique mood, yet each with a comfortable place in the frame of the album. "Kid A" keeps an open mind involved, from the troubling or soothing (depend-

ing on your interpretation) title track to the jam picked climax of "The National Anthem."

Some of it is soothing, some peculiar, some (unintentionally) sexy, and some debatable. Regardless, all of this work passes my most important test for any music, as it is truly mind-altering.

Rating *****

Green Day/Warning

Warning: There was a reason that Green Day completely avoided playing any of this new material during their last stop in town.

Previously, the group has had success by blending driving punk and melodious pop.

Nothing on this album is driving enough to be punk or catchy enough to be successful pop. Each song is on its face somewhere in between.

Almost all of these songs share a tempo and the seemingly fun titles such as "Blood, Sex, and

Booze," have no pay off. Some of these tracks make three minutes seem like two months. "Minority" and "Macy's Day Parade" are listenable, but neither would get a second listen on any of Green Day's past albums.

I would recommend this album only after you've worn the information completely off of all of their other magnificent discs. **Rating ****

Pearl Jam/Live Bootlegs

Pearl Jam's release of 25 two-disc sets (each containing one show from the current tour) is a hot topic among critics, media, and retail outlets.

These \$12 sets are an attempt to maneuver bootleggers, who generally charge \$50 for a recording of one show.

The set lists change from night to night (or disc to disc), but not nearly as drastically as they generally change sets on tour.

Also, there are no previously

unreleased songs on any of them. Still, the discs emit near-perfect sound, and most of them are an unprecedented value.

They contain all of Ed Vedder's entertaining observations and audience interaction. The discs also capture the smooth, yet interesting exchanges between guitarists Mike McCready and Stone Gossard and some improv and alterations.

As good as the band's material is translated live, some of the most interesting moments are the dazzling covers, such as The La's "Timeless Melody" and The Who's "Baba O'Riley." Chances are, you would be looking for no more than a few sets.

So, I would suggest both shows that took place in London and the show from Hamburg. Some fans may be a little crazy to feel the need to collect 22 versions of "Cledorbury."

But, at least, now they are cheap and guaranteed to sound good. **Rating *******

Rent strikes Rosemont

by Kaylee Vanhose

"How do you document real life when real life's getting more like fiction each day. Headlines, bread lines, blow my mind, and now this deadline, eviction or pay. RENT!"

This sexy 90's musical first hit the Off-Broadway stage in January 1996 with its illuminating characters and cast members.

With issues like love, friendship, death, AIDS, and coping, individuals throughout the world can relate and take this musical to heart.

"Rent" has received over 20 awards including the 1996 Pulitzer Prize, 1996 Tony Award, and many others for best musical, lyrics, books, actors, and more.

It's no wonder because it's been running for over four years and hasn't lost that certain something that intrigues people to want to see it again and again.

I guess I can be called a "RENT junkie." I've seen the award winning musical four times, each containing a different cast.

On Sunday, Oct. 8, I saw a performance at the Rosemont Theater that was wonderful.

As many fans know, "RENT" transplants Puccini's beloved Bohemians to East 11th Street, gives them AIDS, rats and moches, and sends them into what to a rock-and-roll beat.

Mark and Roger are best friends and roommates. Mark used to date Maureen who left him for Joanne.

Benny used to live with Mark and Roger and is now married to Alison Grey of Westport, who we never see.

Benny used to date Mimi and Roger falls in love with her later not knowing of her previous boyfriend.

Mark and Roger are friends with ex-roommate Collins, who falls in love with the dying Angel.

Christian Mena played the character of Roger Davis. He definitely did not meet my expectation of Roger nor did he follow the per-

formances of the original; Adam Pascal, or Manley Pope.

He was a bit offbeat and didn't possess the passion that Roger's character needs.

Matt Caplan did a phenomenal job portraying the character of Mark Cohen. He did not disappoint his audience.

His ad-libs, comical facial expressions, and awkward presence matched those of the original, Joliet's own Anthony Rapp, who is absolutely amazing.

Mark Richard Ford played the part of Tom Collins. Must I say AMAZING. He was even better than the original, although his long hair caught me off guard.

His passion was stunning! He sang "Sante Fe," "I'll Cover You," and a rendition of "Seasons of Love" with such feeling.

His voice echoed through the theater and the audience fell in love

"Shimmers with hope for the future of the American musical."

**-Ben Brantley
(New York Times)**

with his performance.

Shawn Earl, who played Angel Schunard for the last few tours was awesome as usual. I can only dream I could walk around in 5 inch platforms!

Sayon Sangleb played the infamous Mimi Marquez, although extremely disappointing. Her character is very dynamic, and there was nothing dynamic about her performance.

There was no genuine feeling anywhere. Yes, it's pretty sad when the musical's "tragic couple" is actually a "weak duo."

The group numbers such as "Rent," "La Vie Boheme" and "Seasons of Love," were great! The audience loved them, and the feeling was there.

Duets such as "Another Day," "I'll Cover You," "Take Me or Leave Me" and my favorite, "What You Own," were all stunning num-

bers performed with such sentimental feeling.

"A full-fledged theatrical event that, for once, actually lives up to the hype."

**-Michael Kuchwara,
Associated Press**

Part of the reason that "Rent" is so successful is because people can relate to it so well.

The true message is somewhat described in the song "What You Own" in which tells listeners that we are indeed what we own and we're renting everything else until the day we die.

Jonathan Larson was an amazing man. He had created one of the most powerful musicals that Broadway would ever see, but never lived to see its success.

On January 25, 1996, the night before it would open Off-Broadway, Mr. Larson experienced severe pains during the final run through.

That night, Jonathan Larson, age 35, was found on the floor of his apartment.

The show touches on things no other musical touches on, and seeing it once makes you want to go back so you can understand it even more.

Eddie "jams" Alpine

by Michelle Tarrant

Even though the temperature was hovering around 24 degrees, thousands of Pearl Jam fans packed the venue, Alpine Valley, to catch one of the best legs of the band's "Binaural Tour 2000."

The tour hit the U.S. in mid-September, after selling out venues in Europe over the summer months.

Eddie Vedder opened up the show by welcoming everybody "to the Icebowl," and then proceeded on to play for over 2 hours in the blistering cold.

After taking the stage at about 9 p.m., the group opened up with a stimulating rendition of "Of a Girl," and the set list continued rocking on with "Light Years," "Off he Goes," "Black" and "MFC."

About halfway through the show, when Vedder took it upon himself to rock chilly attendees, the band played one of their biggest hits, "Jeremy."

The sound quality of Alpine Valley is as clear and so crisp, that you could hear every word echo across the starry sky.

Although it was cold enough to freeze solid, Pearl Jam also got the crowd warmed up when they performed "Better Man." There

wasn't a mouth there that didn't feel Vedder belt out their most popular hit.

Friends and strangers latched onto one another during the bit, while others found it better to slam dance and mosh throughout the tune.

After a brief pause in the show, Vedder said the gang came back out onto the stage and invited one fanatic up to show the audience his "Let Ralph Debate" sign.

Pearl Jam has donated campaign signs to Ralph Nader, a presidential candidate for the upcoming election, in support of his hopes for many democratic issues.

Vedder said, "Even this one sign shows that our pal Ralph appeals to kids like you."

The feel of the crowd was incredible. Most of the people there commented on how nice it was to attend a show where the population of the audience was over 18 and not interested in the latest "Top 9" melodies.

The venue itself was never faulty. With great sound, lots of space to move around and a nice setting in the soon to be ski resort, fans received quite a treat with the final concert to close out the 2000 season.

"RENT" CHARACTERS

Roger Davis- a struggling musician who's HIV+. Roger hopes to write one last meaningful song before he dies.

Mark Cohen- a filmmaker and video artist, and Roger's roommate.

Tom Collins- an HIV+ computer genius who's back in New York after being away.

Benjamin Hoffman III- landlord of Mark and Roger's building. Benny wants to start a multimedia studio.

Joanne Jefferson- a public interest lawyer, and Maureen's lover.

Angel Schunard- a transvestite street drummer also infected with HIV.

Mimi Marquez- a dancer with AIDS and a drug problem.

Features

Teen pregnancy continues to drop

by Alanna Dillman

Imagine sitting your parents down and having to tell them that you are pregnant or you are about to become a father.

Think of the disappointed look on their faces as you have to tell them that even though you were careful, and used a condom, you are still going to have to raise a child even though you are just barely old enough to drive.

All those lectures and commercials about safe sex were ignored because it could never happen to you.

Almost everyone knows some-

**50% teen pregnancies end in birth
30% end in abortion
14% end in miscarriage
1% choose adoption**

Pregnancy rates in the 90s:

**1990 - 117 out of 1000 girls
1996 - 97 out of 1000 girls
1998 - 49.6 out of 1000 girls**

one who had a child before the ripe age of 18.

It isn't surprising when a third of sexually active teens don't use contraceptives consistently, and 19 percent of sexually active teens are under the age of 15.

But despite all of the cam-

paigns, teen pregnancy and abor-

tion in the U.S. is still the highest in the industrialized world according to published reports.

It is twice as high as Canada, four times Germany and France's rates, and eight times that of Japan.

Roughly one million teens a year get pregnant and the government spends \$40 billion to help families begun by teenage birth.

In 1960, 15 percent of all teen births were to unmarried teens.

Compared to 1999, where 78% of teen births were to unmarried teens, the teen births have gone up

tremendously. Although the birth rate has increased rapidly, the age at which people get married has also increased leaving more time for people to become pregnant.

Despite all of these statistics, teen pregnancy in the U.S. is declining slowly. Surprisingly, abortion has also declined among teens.

There are more restrictive laws on abortion now and a limited number of providers for the service.

There has also been a decrease in public funding for abortions.

If there are many arguments about what has actually contributed to these declines.

Research also shows that 25 percent of the drop is due to teens waiting longer before having intercourse and 75 percent of the drop is because of better birth control use

among experienced teens.

The U.S. is also the only developed country that promotes abstinence among teens. Campaigns to save sex for marriage are very popular among church groups.

Along with promoting abstinence, birth control methods are becoming more available to everyone.

New birth control has a higher success rate when you don't have to remember to use them before having sex.

All the statistics show that the U.S. is doing better at keeping the teen birth rate lower than in the past years.

There are many organizations that can help teens deal with pregnancy issues like March of Dimes and Crisis Pregnancy Center.

Midterm stress demands coping skills

by Vicky Baffiri

Yes, indeed, it's that time of the school year again! Bloodshot eyes, Vivaran and hands crawling through your hair with a gradual pull every now and then out of frustration.

Dunkin' Donuts is boomin' with business with insomniacs.

Students are running around like mad, getting tutored at the last minute or trying to drop a class, and when procrastination, your best friend, stabs you in the back.

Sound familiar? If it doesn't then you have it made; you are a master guru!

This may be called: midterm stress. The semester is halfway over and some students think that their classes will not get any harder, so it's break time and studying for some exams or quizzes isn't much of a priority.

In some situations, students

may receive an A on the midterm, yet receive a puzzling C for the final grade.

"I am putting a lot of time into studying for this midterm test because this is not a good feeling when you only have one grade that determines the whole outcome."

-Heather Seeman, sophomore

How can that be? This situation can be one of many that may stress college students.

"Well, I'm pretty used to it by now. Although, I am pretty stressed out about my Ethics class. I'm thinking if it's ethical to even be so stressed out!" said sophomore Heather Seeman.

"I am putting a lot of time into

studying for this midterm test because this is not a good feeling when you only have one grade that determines the whole outcome.

I personally do not think that is right. What if you were having a bad day that day and you did not do as well as you hoped?

Now, you don't have any tests or quizzes that can make up the points!

Well, I better get used to it because most colleges do exactly that.

Then, there are people like Amie Hoffman, a freshman.

"I'm not worried at all, and I even have a huge physics midterm and a stats midterm," she said.

Student Lexi Vertrees is in the Vet Tech Program here at JJC.

"The vet tech program is chal-

enging. It takes up a lot of time and effort, but it is worth it. My

midterm is basically a lab practice and it is hands on.

I'm kind of nervous, but not really stressed out. I guess I just tell myself I'll do just fine because I've been to class all the time and I have asked questions.

Another reason why I'm not so stressed is because I find the material to be very interesting and fun," said Vertrees.

"Sometimes teachers don't realize that we have jobs that pay for our schooling and I can't just leave my job for a few days to study for a big midterm test," said student Marissa Martinez.

"My criminal justice teacher, says the class should 'eternalize the material.' I try, but it's so hard. I sit there staring at my book for hours and forgetting what I read two seconds ago."

Some midterm and exam tips are easy to follow and work pretty well.

TIPS

1) Try to stay awake in class. This will avoid possible cramming at the end of the semester.

2) Don't skip class so much, and add stress into an exam. Just attending class can be a plus because of extra information a student may gain during those 50-minute sessions.

3) ASK QUESTIONS!! Many students shy away from discussing topics over with a teacher NEWSFLASH: That is what they are here for. Happy studying!

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Sports

JJC Rugby helps build camaraderie and friendships

by Tim Daly

What sport has a hooker, relies on fierce rucking and makes its players wear boots? Why rugby of course?

Hooker is a position in rugby, rucking is a technique and boots refer to cleats.

This year marks the inaugural year of JJC Rugby, and with 60 students signed up this semester alone, their future looks bright.

"We have been practicing with a local men's club this season to help pick up some pointers from them, but the way our numbers have been going we are prob-

ably going to start our spring practices here on campus," said team officer, Gary Burkhardt.

Although the JJC Rugby Club is only in it's first season, there have been great rugby players coming through Joliet Junior College for quite some time. This past spring, four of JJC's rugby players were selected to play on the Chicago Collegiate Rugby All-Star game, a traveling team selected from invited players attending schools in the Chicago area.

"It was kind of weird at the practices. There were all these guys with kit (team apparel) from

Northwestern, UIC, Loyola, and just about every big school in Ill. And here we were, the only junior college kid on the team...it was kind of neat," said member Mike Burke.

One club member received an invitation to the Under-19 National Team Camp in Ohio last spring, where he competed for the chance to represent his school in the Rugby World Cup which took place in Australia.

With so many area high schools picking up rugby as a sport, JJC's future is a bright one. Lockport, Plainfield,

Naperville and Kankakee High Schools all have had teams the past two seasons, and Lincoln-Way, Lemont and Joliet Township all have teams planned to start up within the next two years.

Surprisingly, the JJC Rugby club is about more than playing rugby.

The sport of rugby has always been more about friendship and camaraderie than it has anything else.

In fact, the JJC Rugby club is chartered as both an athletic and a social club.

"Most rugby teams have

guys and girls that come out to games and meetings but really don't want to play...we call them social members and they are what makes rugby teams great," said Burkhardt.

Anyone interested in playing with the team, or participating as a social member should feel free to come out to practices.

Practices are being held Tuesday and Thursday nights in Manhattan at Manhattan JCC.

For directions to practice, or for much information the club can be contacted at (815) 529-0708 or by e-mailing rockyracon@aol.com.

Why not a positive view of the violation?

by Matt Furlane and Tim Daly, staff writers

Football is a tough sport. It requires hard work and discipline just to survive. But the pressure to win and preserve the integrity of the college is even harder.

In theory a winning football team could bring enormous publicity to a school leading to an increase in students and many other benefits.

Remember Northwestern and Notre Dame of years past, the headlines, the victories, and the prestige. Every administrator dreams of that happening at their college.

JJC will never be an Ivy league school nor will a championship change the character of the school because we are way more than just athletes.

But, nevertheless athletics is part of the equation. The ability to discipline your body in order to perform exceptionally is an honorable pursuit.

To work hard physically and win big is something that cannot be experienced in a classroom.

In light of this, the administration's decision concerning out of state players something that should be looked at in a positive light.

Commentary

There was no evil intent on the part of anyone. There was no conspiracy to cheat. MacDougall is a good enough coach to win by the rules and he will prove that next year.

The administration should at least be recognized for seeking to help the college and the athletes. A large college's administration took the high road and did the noble thing.

Athletic programs have gotten used to doing the sleazy thing: what has happened here at JJC boggles the mind.

School administration's made a mistake last year and recruited too many out of state football players.

It didn't affect their season much (last year's team finished with a record of 4-5).

At one point in the beginning of this season, school administrators met with new coach MacDougall to discuss what actions should be taken about this problem.

The school could have cut a few of the players on the team and continued it's season without a

word being said.

Instead of hurting the players that they would have decided to continue with their season and keep their team together.

The administration of your junior college developed a conscience, and because of it, left itself open to the finger pointing and the allegations of local newspapers, teachers, and angry students.

Somewhere in the middle of all the protests from these people, it was forgotten that school administrators did the virtuous thing in standing by their students no matter what the public relations ramifications would be.

The JJC Wolves football team is one of the best community college teams in the United States.

They have gone from the perennial doormat of the conference to a juggernaut who thinks in terms of national championships.

The football team did everything right this season.

People should be proud of the athletes who play for this school. The Wolves are a team to be admired for their excellence and not condemned for a past mistake.

That's what the administration was striving for this season.

Volleyball by Tony Ciampa



Photo by Laura Murphy

The JJC Wolves volleyball team ended the season with a spectacular run of 13 straight matches' won and a victory over North Central College 15-2, 15-6, and 15-6. The places the overall record for the season at 31-10. This year's 31wins was the first time since 1990 that they had reach this plateau in victories.

In the victory over North Central College, Anne Marino led the team with 12 kills and 16 digs. Also contributing to the victory was Crystal Hoinacki with eight kills and three aces and Jo

Chestnack adding nine kills.

The year was a high point from many aspects of the team. At home the JJC Wolves ended the season undefeated with a 9-0 record at Wills Gymnasium and won the NAC Conference. Fan support has become bigger and bigger as the Wolves have moved towards the Playoffs at the College of Lake County in Grayslake.

The playoffs begin on Fri., Nov. 3 against Triton. The finals will be held Sat., Nov. 4. The Wolves will be trying to extend their streak to 14.

Give us athletes a home

by Tim Daly

JJC is more like a huge university that it is a small community college in one respect, facilities.

Unfortunately with all of JJC's incredible academic facilities, our school's athletic facilities are desperately lacking. Where does our school's football team play?

I love Joliet Memorial Stadium, and have had an opportunity to play inside in front of 9,000 plus screaming fans.

But when was the last time that our football team had 9,000 plus fans come out to watch them play? It must be hard playing week in and week out in an empty stadium.

Why not loosen the purse strings and get our football team the stadium it sorely needs? What kind of home field advantage is playing somewhere that isn't your home? What about our school's gym?

Ok, now who among us can say that they have stepped foot inside our school's gym?

Our gym, the place our school showcases it's exceptional athletics and hard working athletic teams, is hidden in a corner above a fitness

center.

If our school would put some money into making it easy to hang out around our school's athletic teams, it would accomplish two things. It would enrich the lives of the athletes by giving them some sort of support at more games and it would improve the experiences of every other student here by opening their eyes to the concept of school spirit.

I understand that JJC is a school and the purpose of a school is to educate, but there's more to an education than what is in a classroom.

I know a half dozen honor students here that would argue me on this point till they were blue in the face, and even a handful of teachers and administrators who would disagree with me as well. And to them I say that there's more to life than what is in a book.

If our school truly is interested in developing it's students as well rounded individuals than consider expanding on our school's athletic facilities the next time there's another round of "improvements" made to the school.

Athlete of the issue: Anne Marino

by Lorrena Guerrero

Elvis had blue suede shoes and a charming personality to swoon women to his musical performances.

Well, Elvis isn't here, but Volleyball co-captain Anne Marino has wild, crazy and colorful size 7 sneakers are!

While her blue sneakers may get attention put on the court floor, her game gets the eyes back above the net.

"She brings stability to our team," says co-captain Crystal Hoinacki of Marino's team strengths. "She holds our team together and she's a bucket of fun."

Marino's volleyball career started when she was in 5th grade after watching her sister play. She thought it seemed like a fun and challenging sport and she said she likes to be challenged.

Marino's love of the game began at Joliet Catholic Academy, where she started all four years, concluded with a fourth place Chicago 4A-HS State Title.

Marino set the Joliet Junior College single match mark for highest passing percentage by going 28 for 28 in the Sept. 7 tournament.

Marino and Hoinacki each made the all-conference first team this year, making it Marino's second straight year being picked to



Anne Marino

photo courtesy Athletic Dept

the all-conference first team. Marino believes there are a few key factors for her continuous success in volleyball.

"My friends, other JJC athletes and especially football player Matt Griebel come to all of my games," says Marino. "My parents have been at every game since forever."

"Coach McKay has definitely helped me get my game to a higher point since I have been here," she said.

Marino will be having shoul-

der surgery at the end of the season. Depending on how that turns out, she is thinking about playing out, she is thinking about playing for a major university.

As for now, she is just looking forward to playing out the rest of the season.

After winning the conference game against College of DuPage, look forward to seeing Marino's blue sneakers light up the court as the volleyball team heads to nationals.

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Nation still confused over Election 2000

by Michelle Tarrant and Kaylee Van Hoose

In a day that marks the freedom, rights and privileges of living in America, this far Nov. 7 has only succeeded in bringing confusion and frustration to the attention of the United States.

During one of the closest presidential elections in the history of the country it may not be known for days who the ultimate winner of the election is.

The U.S. Constitution states that 270 electoral votes are needed to win the office of president. Currently, the race is so close, that neither Vice President Al Gore nor Texas Gov. George Bush has officially been awarded the title.

On Nov. 8, Bush led Gore by a little over 1,300 votes in the state of Florida. On Nov. 13, Bush led Gore in Florida by about 300 votes, a 0.003

percent difference.

The statewide recount was finished late in the evening on Nov. 9; a process which is automatic according to Florida state law.

Most of the confusion in this heated election lies in Florida's West Palm Beach County.

In Will County, Bush received 49.9% while Gore received 47% of the votes.

Supposedly, a butterfly ballot that was used in the county on Election Day caused confusion to many voters.

A hand count of the votes tallied was completed in one area of Florida, representing around one percent of that county's vote. The hand recount produced 19 more votes for Gore.

According to the Associated Press, that brought Bush's lead in the crucial state to below 300 votes, raising fears in the Bush campaign that

the widening recount could move Gore into the lead and win the election.

Palm Beach officials also said if 19 votes emerged from 1 percent of the vote, the complete recount could change the picture by hundreds of votes.

The Bush campaign has held out the threat of calling for recounts in Iowa and Wisconsin, both narrowly won by the vice president, as well as Oregon and New Mexico, which remain contested.

After the latest count in New Mexico, Bush, the Texas governor, leads by four votes.

Florida's 25 electoral votes would give either man the 270 votes in the Electoral College to win the presidency.

As of press time, Gore has 255 votes, Bush has 246 and 17 are undecided from Oregon and New Mexico as well as Florida.

NATIONAL OFFICES

U.S. Congress, 11th District
• James P. Stevenson (D) - 42%
• Gerald C. "Jerry" Weller (R) - 58%

U.S. Congress, 13th District
• Thomas Mason (D) - 37%
• Judy Biggers (R) - 62%

WILL COUNTY OFFICES

Circuit Clerk
• Pam McGuire (D) - 55%
• Dinah Lennon Archambeault (R) - 41%

State's Attorney
• James W. Glasgow (D) - 46%
• Jeff Tomczak (R) - 54%

County Auditor
• Gary M. Bebar (D) - 42%
• Steve Weber (R) - 58%

Early registration turns into nightmare for students

by Kaylee Van Hoose

On Nov. 8, students and faculty were distressed after the easy registration process turned into a major difficulty.

"We could not have anticipated that the software conversion would have such a dramatic impact on the time it takes to register," said Dr. Alan Hardersen, vice president of Student Services in a recent memo.

JJC recently completed an update of the computer software used for registering students and maintaining student records.

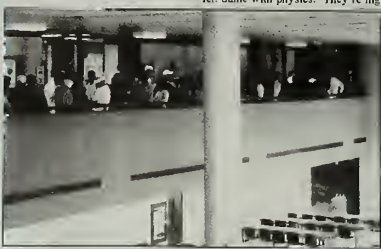
This update allows the college to provide Web-based and touch-tone telephone registration in the near future.

Also, the new software will assist staff members in providing even greater service in the areas of academic planning and counseling, financial aid, billing and several others.

"I think we should have and we show need for internet registration."
-Jason Thomas, 18

Unfortunately, the recent software update has unexpectedly resulted in a significant slowing of the registration process that used to take three to five minutes. During early registration, it took as long as 15-20 minutes.

"I think the new registration process should have been tested first, this is a nightmare," said Elba Vargas, 18.



Hundreds of students wait in line for hours during the early registration
Photo by Laura Murphy

JJC has implemented a policy of taking students' completed registration forms and entering those in the order received without asking students to wait, even though many students waited for hours at a time.

Sophomore Amie Marizza waited for open phone lines for several hours and never received any results.

"It was a nightmare trying to register at JJC," said Marizza. "How are we going to be somebody if we can't even get into a class?"

Student Jim Reardon, 21, stood in line for several hours and spoke to a person working in registration during his long wait.

The old computer systems could update data in about 30 seconds," Reardon said. "The new system is a little slower in most aspects, except when it updates billing data. This takes at least 15 minutes per student. I timed it. After two hours the registration lady had processed 10 students. TEN!"

Many students waited in line for hours at a time in order to register for classes that quickly fill up such as certain math classes, physics and political science.

"I think JJC should move to a seniority system like almost every other junior and state school (i.e., COD)."

The more you've been at school the higher priority you get to register, which make sense because the higher level classes are impossible to get into," said Reardon. "There's one section of calc 3; I didn't get into it I'd have to wait another year to transfer. Same with physics. They're high



Dr. Alan Hardersen, JJC vice president of Student Services, hands out registration forms to shuffling students in line. Photo by Laura Murphy

demand classes that always fill up.

The lines stretched over the bridge and through the J-building. People were in line as early as 12 p.m. waiting to start registering at 2 p.m.

"Poorly organized! They need to reconsider how many people they have registering and the time they updated the systems," said Jessica Berkeley, 18.

According to Reardon, most people were blaming the processors because it looked like they were sitting and doing nothing.

"It was really the computer systems that couldn't handle it. There's no reason they couldn't," he said.

After several hours, faculty advisors collected students filled out schedules realizing the problem was more severe than they first imagined.

"Needless to say, if lines are like that next year, students are NOT going to put up with it."

According to Hardersen, JJC is always working to serve students better and he firmly believes that the

problems that are being faced will soon be replaced by increased opportunities and a greater level of service in the future.

"Ridiculous; I was in line for five and a half hours."
-Licet Chavez, sophomore

It is suggested that students check kiosks for confirmation of schedules. "We would like to offer our most sincere apologies for the inconvenience caused by this computer software conversion," said Hardersen.

"We are working diligently to correct the technical problems that are slowing our computers' ability to process using the new software, and we expect the time it takes for a student to register to improve as we process."

America needs to take a good look at the voting process

It's about 3:30 p.m. on the afternoon after Election Day. I don't know what to think of the results that have been created by the media and their "projection" polls as well as the voting process as a whole.

Does this system need to be analyzed, reformed or abolished?

How can I trust in my vote when it really comes down to an electoral vote? Right now, Texas Gov. George W. Bush has been projected to win the electoral vote in Florida, while Vice President Al Gore stands on the sidelines, with the popular vote not reining as the powerful force.

Although I voted for neither big



Clip-n-Save

By Michelle Tarrant

party candidate, I strongly believe that it is the right of every American to be allowed to speak through this democracy by voting. But how can we say "Your vote counts" when the results don't reflect the general consensus of a nation's public?

The day after the election, Gore himself stated, "What is at issue is the fundamental fairness of this process as a whole." Who knows what the answer to this procedure

that is on everyone's mind really is? Does this system need to be analyzed, reformed or abolished? As citizens of this nation, I believe that it is our duty to make sure a confusing and unsettling event like this does not occur in the future.

The question of the media's involvement in the election process is also a pressing issue.

The state of Florida was projected a Gore state shortly after the polls

the state closed. Could this media blitz have affected the way of votes in the west?

Ralph Nader, Green Party candidate for President, was projected to receive around four to five percent of the votes in many eastern and central U.S. states. Yet, Nader received approximately two to three percent in most of these areas.

Could pro-Nader voters in these regions have changed their minds

inside the voting booth at the last minute? Did they not want to throw their precious votes in the direction of Bush's Possibility.

Then maybe that's why Nader received around three to five percent of the votes in the western U.S. Perhaps "Nader-heads" who entered the booth looked at those early Florida results and assumed Gore had it in the bag.

At the same time, maybe some of them didn't worry about their vote being shuffled in Bush's direction, since there had several problem states in the bag as projected by the media.

If I can say one thing quite assuredly about this event, it is that unquestionably the American public has taken notice of all the events

System needs to reform the way criminals are punished

When I was pulled over late one night for not having a license plate on the front of my car, my views on our laws, and the penalties behind these laws, became clear to me as to how much they need to be reformed.

There are many reasons I am calling for this reform of our country's legal system. My main reason is justice. When a man can get three years in jail for raping a child or woman yet a different man gets ten years for selling drugs, something needs to be done. The sure to this cancer would be a reform of certain laws that mandates a strict policy against crimes against other people. No crime of self-indulgence should be punished more than a crime against another human being. This is hierarchy overstepping its boundaries. The war on drugs became such an institution during the Reagan years that it has led to true criminals being let out of jails, while the man



Sigh of the Times

By Tony Ciampa

who is hurting no one but himself is being punished far too harshly.

If I could fix these problems with our legal system, I would. It is going to take a severe movement of men and women standing up and asking our country to understand.

If a person is convicted of a crime, he should get a mandatory 20 years with no parole. If a person molests a child, he should be in jail for the rest of his natural life. These crimes are unacceptable and should be seen as hate crimes against society.

One major concern I have is in the issue of capital punishment. In looking at America, I can see the

death penalty holds no place in the justice system in our society. We are not vulgar beasts who must kill in order to justify another person's death. There must be a reconstruction of our system in order to exact capital punishment as a final solution to the most heinous crimes. A majority of Western civilized countries have changed and we must follow suit.

There are an insurmountable number of reasons for changing capital punishment. It is immoral and unconstitutional. From 1972 to 1976, the Supreme Court decided that the death penalty was against the 8th amendment. The 8th amendment

states that no person shall be subject to cruel and unusual punishment. Can we all say electrocution and lethal injection? When the death penalty was reinstated in '76, it was worded differently.

As new Supreme Court members come in, the death penalty has stayed legal because of how each of them interprets it. Apparently, it does not seem too cruel to the Supreme Court, so it is all right.

In the 1999 Harris Poll, Americans, on average, believed that one out of every nine people convicted of capital punishment was innocent. The questioning is there.

Where is the answer? It is in our voices as the youth that must lead for tomorrow.

We must make sentences mandatory for the worst crimes. If a person kills another person, they should get life. There is no chance of reform.

For these individuals, our system of justice should not hold the right to kill someone for their irrational behavior. Does this make us any better?

We as college students, should push for a change in how crimes are punished. Our whole adult lives are going to be entombed in conforming to the laws, so we need to let it be known how we feel about the punishment for these laws. Write to your governor. Someone must stand up against this defunct system of law.

I would like to thank Ben Kasp for his help with information on capital punishment. Contact me at t_ciampa@hotmail.com.

Question of the Issue

"What is your take on the events that have surrounded this presidential election?"

"I think that Gore should have done the honorable thing and just accepted that he had lost."

Zack Tyler, 18
Freshman

"None of this would have happened if everyone would have voted for Nader like they should have."

Ryann Clark, 20
Sophomore

"They should ban the Electoral College because the people are smart enough to choose their own president"

Levon Pettis, 21
Sophomore

"I honestly can't think of any other way to describe it other than crazy."

Scott Hopkins, 18
Freshman

"I think it's ridiculous they have not found a winner."

Kristen Neary, 18
Freshman

"It's a conspiracy because Bush's brother is the governor of Florida and he has the power to cause such a situation."

Courtney Micco, 18
Freshman

Blazer Editorial

Some students need an etiquette lesson

For once you got up on the right side of the bed. The day is going swell. You actually did your homework, studied for that big exam and left early enough to get to school on time.

While walking over so happily to class, you see a large mob of students, who have just finished their classes, fast approaching. So, you move to the right side of the hallway to avoid collision and conflict.

CRUNCH! You have just been slammed into. For sarcasm, you utter an audible "Excuse me." Yet, you feel goes unanswered, and yet another student crashes right into, without so much as an "I'm sorry."

Welcome to the halls of JJC. Not that we are saying that every student at this school is rude, ignorant and lacking a sense of direction, but most often, other students just plain don't care who they have to run over to get to where they are going.

Another problem area besides busy hallways are the doorways. A common gesture of politeness is to, oh we don't know, maybe hold the door open for someone.

It takes all of about two seconds, but even when you do something so

simple, people give looks of confusion as to why you are being overly nice.

Also, if you are to be entering a building using a double doorway system, use BOTH DOORS.

One time too many we have been caught in long lines of confused students who don't seem to understand that the two doors are there for a reason.

Dare to be different. Open the other door. You will be amazed at the results.

Here is another problem us folks at the Blazer have noticed. If you are going to have a club meeting or social gathering, the middle of the busiest hallway in Will County is not the place to stop and gab. No wonder teachers fathom why we are late for class.

It isn't too hard to be courteous of one another and respect other people's space. An occasional, "Oh, I'm sorry for bumping in to you," or an "Excuse me," can work wonders for an unhappy student.

So please, let's all spread the respect and instead of randomly bumping into someone and not apologizing for try a love tap.

Letter to the editor: Election woes

Dear Editor:

I read with great interest your editorial about Ralph Nader being allowed to partake in the Presidential Debates.

I am in agreement with that, but with one further addition. Harry Browne. It is my feeling that neither of the bipartisan candidates are showing much interest in preserving personal liberty.

I have voted for bipartisan candidates, mainly Republicans, for most of my adult life, only to be disap-

pointed when they got elected.

As for your vote "not counting," that is not the case at all. Many Americans are fed up with same old bipartisan waffling, and have expressed major interest in an alternate candidate.

Most people who I know have stated that they plan to vote for the "lessor of the two evils," because there's no way anyone other than a Republican (Republican and Democrat) going to win.

Most likely they are right, and we

will be stuck with either Gore or Bush after the election next Tuesday (Blazer note: letter submitted prior to election), but I for one am going to vote for Harry Browne.

I am through voting for who is most likely to win. My vote DOES COUNT, and I refuse to give it to an individual who does not stand for freedom.

-Mike O'Brien
Media Services

JJC band to present winter concert

by Kaylee Van Hoose

The Joliet Junior College Community Band will present its 23rd Annual Winter Concert on Sunday, Dec. 3 at 3 p.m. in the JJC Fine Arts Theater under the direction of the chairman, Jerry E. Lewis.

Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for students and senior citizens and \$1 to all JJC College faculty. Students and staff. The concert will be dedicated to Robert A. Mallary, a former member of the Fine Arts Department. Mallary

taught speech and theater at JJC for 34 years.

"Bob was my colleague, friend, fellow teacher and an avid fan of the JJC Community Band," said Lewis in a recent memo.

The Robert A. Mallary Fine Arts Centennial Scholarship has been established to celebrate the life and teaching career of a fine man.

Contributions can be made by checks payable to JJC Mallary Scholarship in care of Rita Monroe in

the Fine Arts Department.

For the JJC band, the year 2000 marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of one of America's finest composers. Aaron Copland, Copland composed "Billy the Kid," "Appalachian Spring," "Lincoln Portrait," "El Salon Mexico," "Fanfare for the Common Man" and "The Red Pony."

The remainder of the concert will be a celebration of folk music from around the world.



Students browse colleges during JJC's College Fair 2000 on Oct. 17.

Photo by Laura Murphy

Agriculture department holds career day

by Amber Alling

On Nov. 4, the agriculture, horticulture and veterinary departments held their annual career day for prospective students. The day consisted of tours, several informative sessions and a lunch produced by the respective departments' students. Also highlighted at the event was the announcement of a new educational center for the department.

This 143-acre lab is designed for students to receive hands on training

while learning the processes of the farm. The lab undergoes many tests and experiments which are managed by Eric Fanand.

Livestock judging, and event that many students do not know goes on at JJC, was also covered at the event. This past weekend, JJC faculty member Dave Hummel and his team were in San Francisco at a team function. The livestock team is very competitive and attends many out-of-state meets.

This also requires great time-

management skills and the commitment of students and faculty.

Another large event to hit the agriculture department are the plans for the construction of a new Agricultural Education Center. The 30-acre property, located across Laraway Road from the new Chicagoland Motor Speedway, was officially dedicated by the college during a ceremony that included more than 100 college administrators, faculty, staff and students.

The property was donated to the school by local real estate developer and JJC alumnus John. Weitendorf. The JJC Foundation then took charge of raising the estimated \$13 million needed to build the proposed facility.

"Laraway Road will become a new primary path through the Joliet region," stated Weitendorf at the ceremony. "The junior college was very good to me, and I'm proud to be able to give something back."

Once operational, the center would provide a lab and office space for the college's Agriculture, Horticulture and Veterinary Medical Technology programs.

The facility would also contain space to host livestock shows and provide space where students can work with large animals, a new opportunity offered to interested students.

"Mr. Weitendorf's generous donation will enable the college to provide first-rate instruction and practical experience to students of our Agriculture, Horticulture and Vet Tech programs," said JJC President J.D. Ross. "The proposed Agriculture Education Center that will be located on this site will be a fine addition to our educational facilities that will serve the citizens and students of our district well."

EEAS haunted house

by Kaylee Van Hoose

JJC's Electrical/Electronic Automated Systems Technology students, EEAS 225, built a haunted house in the halls of the Main Campus Business and Technology center. The house will be open during all of JJC's operating hours to everyone through mid-November. There is no charge.

"The most important thing I've learned from this project is the value of teamwork."
-JJC student Jeremy Lee

The house is automated, featuring moving doors, objects that pop out and things that move on their own.

Student Vickie Ferraris believes that this year's project is more elaborate than those of years past. "I believe this is the biggest project that JJC has had so far," she said in a recent press release. "I like the team. We were all strangers, but we had to work together to build it."

The instructor's role being primarily supervisory, the students had to plan what they wanted to do and buy the necessary materials and build the house on their own.

Dan Thompson, EEAS faculty, said the haunted house project is "a big part of their learning experience." His 10 students have been meeting from 5-9 p.m. every Tuesday night since September to make their haunted house a reality.

"Their meetings have included the planning, engineering and the physical labor from the very beginning to the very end," said Thompson.

An example of one of the scares awaiting visitors to the house is a crawling spider. Visitors will run into a sensor to activate the spider. The sensor will send signals to the programmable logic controllers, which will control the event. This is how several of the house's features operate.

The type of technology students are experimenting with is the type of automation that is used in theater productions and amusement park rides.

When the students complete the course and the Electrical/Electronic Automated Systems Technology courses are vast. The opportunities include an automation technician at companies, sales personnel of high-tech equipment or instrumentation technician. Also, many may continue their education in a four-year program to become engineers.

The students who are involved in JJC's program have a variety of backgrounds. Some are full-time students, some work during the day, and some already have experience working in the field.

Yet, they have all come together to meet their common goal of completing this project and giving fellow students a good scare.

"The most important thing I've learned from this project is the value of teamwork," said sophomore Jeremy Lee.

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The Blazer encourages participation from readers through letters.

Please sign and provide a phone number for all letters so we can verify the authenticity of the letter and the sender. All letters should be kept to 300 words or less. We reserve the right to edit letters for space and content. You may send letters through inter-office or regular mail, or drop them off at the Blazer office at 6-1009.

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Alcohol Awareness Week is a success

by Rick Iovito

During the week of Oct. 23, Peert Promoting Wellness, with the leadership of Pam Didday, presented National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week. Events included Feed Your Mind, Feed Your Body, an Advanced Mobile Operations Simulator, Question and Answer sessions with guest speakers and a Non-Alcoholic Party to conclude.

Held between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Monday through Thursday on the Bridge, PPW targeted passing students.

"It makes it genuinely worthwhile to know that your work is having an effect."

-Pam Didday

For many apathetic college students, this often-misunderstood program may have felt like a sermon, but in reality it was an invitation to question the reasons behind drinking and think about the consequences of poor decisions.

If college students want to drink, they can certainly get alcohol. Didday, PPW coordinator knows this. Most drugs today are easily accessible, whether they are legal or illegal.

However, she knows the limits of her program.

"If you're underage, you shouldn't be drinking, but if you are going to drink do it responsibly," Didday said. "Many young people who drink think they are infallible. They don't realize something can happen to them."

Many young people believe that somehow social drinking can make an average night an unforgettable one.

According to statistic booklets handed out, alcohol will catch up with its users, whether it is immediately, a year or twenty years down the road.

The realistic goal is to make students be responsible if they are going to do it.

This year was notably different. Didday remarked how she was surprised at how many students repeatedly pursued her to tell her something she didn't expect.

"Students seek me out to tell me they just don't drink, or that they used to but they stopped," she said.

Comments like these are a turning point for events like National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week and are having an effect on young people.

"It makes it genuinely worthwhile to know that your work is having an effect," Didday remarked.

Adult open house

An adult open house for JJC adult students who are 23 and older has been scheduled for Nov. 20 at the North Campus in Room 26.

Also, there will be an open house on Nov. 27 at the Main Campus in J-0000 from 6-8:30 p.m. both days.

Representatives will be available with information and assistance in counseling, financial aid, career planning and transfer center needs.

Adult students will have the opportunity to update old job skills at JJC and can also find the means for furthering their education at JJC.

On-site registration will be available. For information contact Carol Gordon at ext. 2671.

News briefs

JJC Community Chorale Concert

The Joliet Junior College Community Chorale will present Winter Concerts on Tuesday, Dec. 5, at 7 p.m. at Our Lady of Angels Retirement Center.

There will also be a performance on Sunday, Dec. 10, at 3 p.m. in the Fine Arts Theater.

The Chorale will perform traditional holiday music and the "masterwork" *For Us A Child Is Born* by J.S. Bach.

The Chorale is under the direction of Lynette Kesten Mulder and accompanist Tom Secor. Admission is free.

New OSSA director

Anissa Jones has been approved by the JJC Board of Trustees as the new Director of OSSA. Jones arrives at JJC from DePaul University where she served as Program Coordinator in the Office of Student Life at the loop and Lincoln Park Campus.

She has worked extensively in student activities programming and brings a strong understanding of commuter relations to JJC.

She has a Masters of Education degree in human services and counseling from DePaul University and a Bachelor of Arts and science degree in organizational communication from Loyola University.

Madrigal dinner promises food, folks and fun

by Kaylee Van Hoose

The 23rd Annual Joliet Junior College Madrigal Dinner will be presented on Friday, Dec. 8, 2000 at the Renaissance Center's great hall. Tickets for the dinner are \$36 per person, with all proceeds going to music scholarships.

The evening will bring at 6:30 p.m. with a reception in the Atrium and guests will move to the great hall at 7 p.m. to feast on succulent prime rib or cornish game hen with all of the

madrigal trimmings."

All food will be prepared by the nationally acclaimed JJC and Renaissance Center Culinary Arts Department under supervision of Chef Howard Barnes.

The Madrigal Dinner promises to be an outstanding evening of delicious food, excellent service, entertaining drama with the JJC Chamber singers

directed by Douglas Osborn and beautiful music of the JJC Brass Quintet under the direction of Jerry E. Lewis.

Reservations can be made by calling the Fine Arts Department office at 280-2223. The deadline for reservations is Monday, Dec. 4. Seating is arranged according to the date payment is received.



Area high school students display artwork during a recent exhibit at JJC.

Photo by Laura Murphy



A JJC student observes the Laura Sprague Exhibit. Photo by Laura Murphy

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"My Bad"

A collection of Blazer corrections

The Blazer would like to correct the following items from the Nov. 1 issue.

-Administration details winning season: The quote from Mike Griebel should have read "It's a crying shame this whole team has to suffer for the shortcomings of the previous coaching staff."

-Community takes back the night: Story written by co-editor Kaylee Van Hoose

Brown bag lectures press on

by Tim Daly

What's in the bag this week? Probably not the peanut butter and banana sandwiches that a person can grow so fond of.

To make up for that, students and faculty can find some of the most interesting and entertaining lectures this side of I-80.

The Brown Bag Lecturing Series is a program run by the school to help foster "enrichment in the students as well as the faculty."

The lectures are held every two weeks at noon in the meeting room to the left of the entrance to the cafeteria.

"We choose the topics by a committee. The professors that do the lectures are always very familiar with the material as it usually pertains to their area of expertise," said Brown Bag committee chairman Fred Harris.

"The response to our last lecture was incredible, we had so many students that it became a problem finding space for people to listen to the lecture."

The topic of the last lecture was Election 2000 by political science professor Edward Schupke.

"I can't believe how cool this thing was, now I know who to vote for," remarked sophomore Ashley

MacIsaac. "I'm going to be sure to catch the next talk these guys have."

The Brown Bag Lecture series has been running for the past 10 years and has become a lunchtime tradition here at the school.

Many students, staff and faculty attend the event.

The next Brown Bag Lecture, The Practical Side of Ethical Principles, will be held Nov. 29 and will be presented by Dr. Baba Mattai at noon in J-006.

So tell mom to pack an extra peanut butter and banana sandwich and bring it with you to the lecture. Just don't pack any noisy foods.



A karaoke contestant known only by the surname of "Steve" participates in the event held Oct. 31.

Photo by Laura Murphy

Ross sets the pace for JJC

by Michelle Tarrant

Earlier this month, Joliet Junior College President J.D. Ross was presented with the "Pacesetter of the Year" award based on his efforts to promote the educational opportunities that two-year colleges have to offer. Ross was recognized by the regional chapter of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations, a group made up of communications professionals at two-year colleges across the country.

Typically, the award is given to a college president or CEO who has promoted and marketed his or her own college. The winner must also bring distinction and attention to the entire community college movement. Ross has gone to great lengths to build a stronger educational future for community colleges.

"We are the point of access, the college of first choice, for first generation college attendees," said Ross.

Ross was nominated for the award based on his efforts to bring national attention to the community college movement through the celebration of JJC's centennial anniversary year. He has worked with state and

national community college leaders to generate excitement, cooperation and awareness about the opportunities available at two-year colleges.

Many centennial celebration events are planned for the upcoming Spring and Fall semesters. According to Ross, the centennial officially begins Jan. 6, 2001. However, there have been many centennial events, leading up to the anniversary.

"We have much to celebrate, for this is a time of growth at Joliet Junior College," Ross stated. "It is a time to celebrate history and to make history."

A centennial trip from Rome to Athens is being offered to students and faculty who wish to attend and an artwork competition that celebrates the centennial year is also in full swing. The "Centennial Superstar" competition has begun as well, and the college is currently seeking nominations of people who have attended JJC and then distinguished themselves personally and professionally.

"We make higher education accessible to millions," Ross stated. "This year's celebration of the Centennial provides an outstanding opportunity to tell that story."

Fine Arts Department offers plenty in Nov.

by Scott Bessler

The Joliet Junior College Fine Arts Department has been actively showcasing JJC student talent with the fall production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream," while attracting the attention of local high school students by hosting Fine Arts Career Day and a gallery display of artwork from local high school students.

The department will conclude its two-week run of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" on Nov. 17 and 18 at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Theatre on the Main Campus.

The production, directed by Clay Kirkland, comically blends the worlds of dreams and reality.

Featuring some of Shakespeare's most delightful characters, including Puck and the "Rude Mechanicals," this timeless classic reminds the audience that sometimes illusion can teach a lot about the real world.

Tickets for the performances are on sale prior to the show, or reservations can be made by calling ext. 2200. Admission prices are \$3 for the public, \$2 for seniors and \$1 for students, staff and faculty.

In addition to the fall play, the Fine Arts Career Day was held Nov. 15.

The event, sponsored by the JJC Fine Arts Department, was open to area high school fine arts students,

including drama, design and art students.

The event included speeches, workshops, special presentations and hands-on activities targeted toward prospective JJC students.

"I went to the career day last year and in a lot of ways it made me want to come to JJC," said freshman Joe Tikenstop. "I am hoping to do a play or musical here soon."

The event provides an opportunity for students to meet practicing professionals and to receive information on career preparations and opportunities at JJC.

Careers in art, fashion merchandising, interior design, music and theater were emphasized.

In conjunction with the career day, the Laura A. Sprague Art Gallery has an area high school art exhibition display that ends today. The gallery highlighted student artwork from local high schools including Joliet Township, West and Central Campus, Joliet Catholic Academy and Providence High School.

Another exhibition scheduled later this month is the "Joliet Arsenal Project," as well as several concerts being held by various JJC bands and ensembles.

Complete date and time listings can be found in the JJC arts calendar or online at www.jjc.edu/arts.

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Calendar of Events: Greenhouse, Catholic Campus Ministry and how to kick the habit

Hey Hey! The JJC Rugby team is holding a "Jersey Raffle." Students can win a high quality, "highly fashionable" rugby jersey.

Raffle tickets may be bought from Ms. Krol or any member of the JJC Rugby club at 280-2517.

Don't forget Turkey Day is Nov. 23. There is no school Nov. 23-24. Classes resume on Nov. 27.

The Adult Open House is scheduled for Nov. 20 at North Campus and Nov. 27 at the Main Campus. Hours for the open house are

from 6-8:30 p.m. For information dial ext. 2671.

JJC is holding an auction Nov. 18 beginning at 9 a.m. Numerous items such as computer software, a cash register, a bumper pool table, salad bar table on wheels, a large metal banquet punch bowl, lead glass raw iron "ornate finds" and parking lot lights are available for auction.

All items sold "As Is - WHERE IS." For information call 815-280-2396.

The next Brown Bag Lecture. The Practical Side of Ethical

Principles, will be held Nov. 29 and will be presented by Dr. Baba Mattal at noon in J-006.

The Laura Sprague Gallery has a new exhibit on display. The JJC area high school art exhibition is currently being showcased in the gallery.

The exhibit is in the gallery that is located on the second floor of the J-building.

The Fine Arts Department will hold "A Midsummer Night's Dream" Nov. 17 and 18 at 8 p.m. in the K-Building on the Main Campus. Tickets are currently on sale and

can be purchased at the door or by calling ext. 2200.

JJC is holding a Centennial Artwork Competition and Silent Auction from 5-7 p.m., Dec. 1, as part of the upcoming Centennial Celebration.

A minimum of \$10 donation is payable at the door. RSVP by Nov. 20 by calling ext. 2745.

The JJC Community Band will present its annual Winter Concert at 3 p.m., Dec. 3, in the Fine Arts Theatre. The concert features the music of Aaron Copland, a celebra-

tion of folk music and some seasonal selections. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for students and seniors, and \$1 for JJC students, staff and students.

International Education Week is Nov. 12-18 at JJC. International Education and the Foreign Languages Departments will be celebrating the event Nov. 14 and 16 from 10-11:45 a.m. with guest speakers and presentations throughout the school.

Have a safe and happy four-day weekend off! Eat lots of turkey for us. Mmm turkey.

Club Events: mid-November

Alpha Mu Gamma/Sigma	FLIC	Latinos Unidos
Delta Mu	Nov. 21	Nov. 21, 28
Nov. 20	12 p.m.	12:30 p.m.
12 p.m.	C-1058	Bridge
C-1058		
Association for Criminal	Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual	Parapsychology Club
Justice Students	Alliance	Nov. 17
Nov. 15	Nov. 16	7-9 p.m.
1:30 p.m.	3 p.m.	D-2001
B-2005	C-2001	
	Intervarsity Christian	Peers Promoting Wellness
Automotive Service	Fellowship	Nov. 17
Association	Nov. 17	1-2 p.m.
Nov. 15, 22, 29	1:15-2:45 p.m.	Student Center
12:15 p.m.	G-2004	
C-1001/1004		Phi Rho Pi
	JC Players	Nov. 17
Delta Psi Omega	Nov. 28	1 p.m.
Nov. 21	3 p.m.	C-concourse
3 p.m.	Theater Lobby	
Theater Lobby		Soccer Club
		Nov. 15, 29
Epicurean Club	Judo Club	4-6 p.m.
Nov. 25	Nov. 16, 21, 28, 30	JJC Gym
8-12	9-11:30 p.m.	
J-0016	G-2007	Student Alliance
		Nov. 16, 30
		3 p.m. Bridge

Horoscopes

By: Matt Packard

Aries:

Remember that guy in the Miss America dress that you gave your number to at that Halloween party? He was not aware that it was a costume party.

Taurus:

What goes up, must come down. This includes your grades, your spirits and your will to go on.

Gemini:

During a romantic dinner, your boyfriend tells you that you're "one in a million." According to population statistics, that means that there are 6,000 of you. Keep an eye on him.

Cancer:

You're not one to follow a crowd. Go against the grain. When they tell you to wave 'em like you just don't care, instead wave 'em from here to there.

Leo:

It occurs to you that, due to high gas prices, driving to Indiana to save 20 cents on a pack of cigarettes is doing you no good.

Virgo:

Have you ever heard "Song for the Dumped" by Ben Folds Five? Buy it this week; it will come in handy.

Libra:

Aries is running through Libra's astropolymonical cycle this week. This could mean drastic change. Just ignore it. Aries is a jerk.

Scorpio:

You have no knowledge of skill regarding journalism. You will be confined to horoscopes, album reviews and other items based solely on interpretation and opinion, and regarding no intelligence. (If you don't write for the Blazer, check Taurus for your reading)

Sagittarius:

You will be asked: Are you really a porn star? Cause, man, every time you wear that shirt people keep mistaking you for a real porn star.

Capricorn:

Sorry about last week when you were promised romance, fortune and serenity. It was an astrological misunderstanding. Capricorn's "map of the stars" was merely a souvenir from a trip to Los Angeles.

Aquarius:

There's a great chance that you will have an epiphany, people in your community will worship you, and you will be happier and wealthier than you ever imagined. But, this won't matter much in the grand scheme of things.

Pisces:

What he's actually saying is "Let's go crazy. Let's get nuts. Let's look for the purple banana 'til they throw us in the truck. Let's go!" You're welcome.



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Parapsychology club offers lectures and information on the mind and soul

by Michelle Tarrant

How many times has a person made a last minute decision or taken a risk based on a certain "feeling" that is emitted from the inside of the body or soul?

Questions like these along with the idea that risk taking can possible increase brain cells and grow the soul will be covered by Linda Lee Cole during a JJC Parapsychology Club lecture scheduled for Nov. 17 at 7 p.m. in O2002.

Cole will cover ideas like those and explore the secrets of the brain's consciousness and discuss enhancing the quality of life by helping people understand how the brain operates.

The seminar entitled "The Owners Manual for the Brain" hopes to attract JJC students and staff at the clubs meeting.

For information on the Parapsychology Club feel free to contact Len Hodgman at 815-744-7491.

The club meets every third Friday at 7 p.m. in D2002.

CD REVIEW

Limp Bizkit- Rinse, wash and repeat Jay Z-almost tear-jerking Madonna-aspiring lyricist: too scary

by Matt Packard

CD Ratings:

- ***** - Excellent
- **** - Great
- *** - Good Tunes
- ** - Not worth the \$15
- * - Not worth the wax

Limp Bizkit/ Chocolate Starfish and the Hot Dog Flavored Water

If you have the apparent misfortune of speaking with me (or if you see me in my favorite shirt), you will probably note that I am a HUGE Spice Girls fan.

I am very aware that they do not make great music, but I can give you a daylong list of reasons for my fondness.

I like to think that Limp Bizkit fans have the same mentality, but I doubt it.

Most of their songs follow the same formula: safe, predictable verse followed by clattering, noisy, and even more predictable choruses, rinse

and repeat.

Songs that get away from this formula such as the rap version of "Rollin' (urban assault vehicle)" and "Gimme Groove On!" can be tolerable because they devote themselves to a straight hip-hop groove.

However, Fred Durst has zero talent when it comes to actually rapping. He has nothing clever to say and uses exhausted rhymes.

In the accompanying booklet, Durst calls this album "A gateway to (their) souls." His is not a soul with anything valuable or even interesting, to say.

If Fred is (as he believes) the voice of what he calls Generation Strange, I'm not having children.

To hold anyone's musical preference against them would defeat my purpose and that of music altogether. But, I will say that if you do not already own a red Yankees cap, this album will not impel you to get one.

Rating**

Jay-Z/ The Dynasty

Jay-Z may very well be the hardest working rapper in hip-hop, and hard work pays off.

The "TRL" viewing legions of his fan base will wonder where the contagious hooks and obvious melodies went.

Meanwhile, his core audience will appreciate the finer things on his fifth album in four years.

Many will enjoy the thick, throbbing bass on "Guilty Until Proven Innocent." Some may also notice that "I Just Wanna Love You" repackages a charming style taken from ODB's "Recognize," while it recycles lyrics from Notorious B.I.G.'s "The World Is Filled..."

More Biggie lyrics are put to good use as the hook on "Squeeze Me." Jay-Z also offers some smart lyrics of his own throughout "Stress is Talking."

Much like his socially significant past works, such as "Lucky Me," "Soon You'll Understand" and "Where Have You Been" are soul-baring standouts.

Throughout the latter, you can almost hear tears dropping onto the keyboard, playing the dim, atmospheric melody as the emcees create a father to son talk.

All of the words come from lumps in the throats of Jay-Z, Nas, Sade, and fatherless children everywhere.

The album is slowed down by the theme of far too frequent guest spots by hip-hop's elite. However, Nas, Sade, and fatherless children everywhere. The album is slowed down by the theme of far too frequent guest spots by hip-hop's elite. However, Nas, Sade, and fatherless children everywhere.

Rating ***1/2

Madonna/Music

Madonna is applauded for "re-inventing" herself so relentlessly that it is almost cliché.

Madonna has never invented anything to begin with. She pays attention to what's going on in a culture of people 20 years her junior and adapts to it. But, I suppose that is to be commended as well.

mended as well.

On her 14th album, she builds on the techno dance foundation of her last effort. This time, she exchanges the spirituality for love.

The love is aimed at people, lifestyles, herself and apparently most importantly, music.

There is a nice mix of truly revolutionary sounds, tender moments, and readable lyrics.

One particular lyric will soon be classic, although not for its brilliance. During "Impressive Instant," Madonna actually sings: "I like to sing, singy, singy...like a bird on a wingy, wingy wingy."

As an aspiring professional lyricist, I twinged. Still, Madonna has managed to complete another entertaining album and prove that you don't have to be 19 to matter in pop music.

To title the disc as she did seems either lazy or inappropriate and unfair to its contents (as it would with any album).

But, if you expect no revelations or overwhelming anthems, "Music" serves its purpose and offers a few surprises.

Rating ***

'Anger-Management Tour' should nix Xzibit

by Kaylee Van Hoose

On Oct. 30, smokey air filled the All State Arena as screaming fans, fancy light shows, hooded-up girls, drunken guys, teens with backwards red Yankees caps, young boys with bleach blonde short hair, not to mention the "angry" performers, energized the room. Now what concert could I be talking about??

Yes, Anger Management Tour 2000 featuring four groups Xzibit, Papa Roach, Eminem and Limp Bizkit.

I have never heard the F-word so much in my entire night in an over five-hour time span. Each band greeted the audience with, "What the F" is up Chicago?"

The concert started with the rap group Xzibit. I must be honest here, I was not enthused to see them.

Their songs all meshed together sounding exactly the same, but maybe I wasn't too familiar with it to even care. Half of the crowd did not arrive until after Xzibit performed. I guess

they were smarter than I was.

Xzibit tried desperately to hype up the crowd, but many screaming fans were there to see Eminem and Limp Bizkit.

So, my favorite part of their performance was when...are you ready for this? Yes, my favorite part was when they left the stage! Nothing made me happier. Isn't that sad?

The next band to perform was definitely my favorite of the four performers, Papa Roach.

The group did a phenomenal job energizing the crowd to get them on their feet. Their energy completely amazed me. It was hard to miss the lead singer's black attire with constantly moving white Adidas tennis shoes with two black stripes.

At one point, the lead singer, Coby Dick, jumped into the crowd and body surfed while still singing. Now that takes talents.

Also, he didn't hesitate to make way through the crowd onto the second level to mingle with his screaming fans. Of course, the band closed

with "Last Resort."

Papa Roach was completely amazing and couldn't have done a better job. It's not very often that a group sounds exactly the same way they do on their CD as they do live in concert. I give them two thumbs up.

The crowd anxiously awaited the performance of Eminem. Chants started, trashy girls tried to get attention by flashing drunken guys and having lesbian encounters with their "friends."

Then of course, a weird duo of friends made their way in the row in front of mine. One looked like he belonged to the Mafia, the other one in his forties trying to regain his youth. Needless to say, my friends and I were quite frightened.

We were not the only ones. Everyone sitting in section 113 was scared of these guys, especially the older one considering he was high on something very strong.

So finally, Eminem came on stage in a "Jason" persona wearing overalls, a white mask and carrying a chainsaw.

It was quite entertaining.

Also, his set was awesome. He decided to bring along the house he grew up in because it was supposed to be torn down. Instead, he thought it would be fun to bring it with him on tour.

At one point of his performance, he brought back old Xzibit, which did not make me happy. Although, they weren't too bad in the accompaniment of Eminem.

They decided to break out into "Tearing up my Heart" by Nsync, although changing the words just a bit. They made a pretty good group! Eminem was a great performer to say the least.

After Eminem's performance, attention went back to the crazy guy who sat in front of me because he was trying to hype up the crowd by dancing, yelling "Damn! Chicago, let's go!" as well as singing Limp Bizkit's "Rollin'."

Finally, the group that most of fans have been waiting for, LIMP BIZKIT. They were AMAZING!

Many people have been talking about how they've become sell-outs, but I found out that this group really, does perform for the fans...as surprising as it may seem.

The featured many songs from their new album as well as drifted back to their last album with songs like "Faith," "Rearranged" and closing with "Nookie."

At one point, Fred Durst brought up a fan to perform with him. This kid was a miniature version of Fred Durst and was in a complete state of disbelief as he "jammed" with Limp. It was almost weird in a way.

Overall, the concert was phenomenal. I was surprised how much I enjoyed it because really, I only attended because of one group. Yet, I enjoyed three out of the four.

What ever happened to those strange people that sat in front of me?

Maybe they sat in the car on the way home playing drinking games to the Limp Bizkit Songs. Everyone you hear the words "Limp Bizkit" take a swig

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November 13, 2000

Wolves football team adds final victory to season

By Tony Ciampa

In what has been a phenomenal season, the JJC Wolves football team beat Harper College 21-20 on the lightning running of JJC running back Darryl Hill.

Due to a sanction against the Wolves' team for too many out-of-state players on the team, the Wolves have had to forfeit all conference games this season.

What should be a 9-1 season and 7-1 in NAC league play, in reality is 2-8 overall. This is unfortunate turn of events did not deter the Wolves from finishing the season strong.

On this school record setting day for Hill, he rushed for 323 yards on 43 carries.

The sophomore had 177 yards in the first half, and 146 in the second half. Hill finished the season with 1314 yards on 204 carries, a great year for a superb player.

Hill's lightning running struck on the second drive by the Wolves when-

"What a great effort by the kids who stuck with us."
—Coach Bob MacDougall

he carried six times for 55 yards on a seven-play drive.

It was capped off by the first of two rushing touchdowns by Hill. The Wolves took the lead for good when trailing, 20-14, they marched 68 yards in nine plays. A 22-yard scamper by Hill capped off the drive.

"What a great effort by the kids who stuck with us. The institution should be very proud of how the players have played and reacted under recent conditions," first year JJC coach Bob MacDougall said. "The kids' effort the last three weeks was outstanding."

Upon reflecting on a great season

by the Wolves, things are looking up for next season with the return of a winning coaching staff and a strong freshmen class.

This year's team has won the most football games for JJC since 1981. Some of the leaders statistically for the Wolves had great personal seasons.

On offense, Steve Farmer led the team with 19 catches for 232 yards with one touchdown.

Also, leading the team on offense with Hill and Farmer was Craig Duppong. Duppong was a multi-purpose threat as he rushed for 600 yards on 106 carries and caught 12 passes

for 145 yards. He also added eight touchdowns.

The trio of Ray Griffin, Terrence Tut and Travis Moten led the defense. Each one showed their presence on the field in different ways. Ray Griffin led the team in sacks with nine. Terrence Tut led the team in interceptions with five (on 69 yards and Travis Moten led the team with three fumble recoveries.

These contributions helped lead to a great season for the JJC Wolves team. Next year looks like the opportunity the Wolves have been waiting for. An opportunity to show the world they are legit.

Cheerleaders and dancers are athletes

by Amy Hrubec

In high school, I was involved with different activities including the Pom Squad. Matter of fact, my senior year, I was one of three captains.

One issue that consistently came up was that dancers and cheerleaders are not athletes.

I disagree. I believe that being a dancer or a cheerleader is being an athlete just as much as a football player or basketball player.

First of all, when a person makes it onto either a cheerleading squad or a dance team, the shortest the season will be 11 months. At varsity squad level, a person may not get a break at all.

A person will make it on to the squad in the spring of sophomore year and not expect more than a week off until the end of senior year. How many football players can say that they have done this?

Commentary

I am not suggesting that football players do not do anything during the off-season because I know that they do. I am saying that they have an off-time to do things at their own pace.

When a person is a cheerleader or dancer, there is no off-season. They work just as hard as any other athlete to maintain their bodies, strength and endurance.

Second, there are so many camps and competitions that dancers and cheerleaders attend during the year.

Members of the teams have to cooperate with one another to succeed. The first camp the team attends will show what the year will hold.

This is like the first game. How members of a team work together and help each other will make or break the

season.

Finally, we have all seen the Saturday Night Live skit with the Spartan cheerleaders. Although a bit exaggerated, it is still pretty close. A cheerleader has enough spirit to carry it with them at all times. Homecoming is a great example.

Ever notice how they get everyone pumped up more during the big game? It is not because they have to do it; it is because they want to. Being a dancer or cheerleader is being an athlete. Take a look at our cheer squad. Yes, JJC has a cheerleading squad.

They are at every home game, ready and waiting to get the crowd and the team pumped up. If the team loses, they are just as upset as the team and the crowd.

However, just like the team they are cheering on, they go out the next week and do it again with smiles on their faces.

2000 volleyball season is one for the books

The women's volleyball team headed to nationals for the first time in over two decades.

by Tony Ciampa

With a shot at making the national tournament for the first time in 22 years, the JJC Wolves volleyball team took on the College of Dupage on Sat. Nov. 4 at the College of Grayslake.

This highly anticipated match played out as everyone expected when two teams who are ranked nationally play against each other. The Wolves ranked No. 4 nationally, lost to the College of Dupage, ranked No. 6 nationally, in heartbreaking fashion 12-5, 15-9, 15-11, 15-11 and 15-13. The loss snapped a 14-match winning streak that the Wolves had going into the finals.

The fifth game was played as a

rally score with the victor going on to the national. The Wolves led 13-11 in the rally game, but ended up a little short at the end.

"No team led by more than two points in the final game," said JJC Wolves Head Volleyball Coach Kym McKay. "We just needed to do two things right down the stretch with a 15-11 lead."

Some individual accolades must go to JJC Sophomore Anne Marino and Freshman Crystal Hoinacki. Marino finished the night by setting a school match record for digs with 30. It was also announced that Marino was a first-team All-Region IV Division III selection for the year.

Hoinacki, also a first-team All-Region IV Division III selection, contributed 16 kills and three blocks.

McKay said, "Crystal's performance was amazing for a freshman in such a pressure situation. She was

"We did so many positive things to help the program turn the corner."
Volleyball Coach Kim McKay

perfect in serving, solid in serve receive. She was outstanding."

In reviewing a year where the Wolves volleyball team won the respect of the conference by winning the NAC tournament crown on Oct. 21 against the College of Dupage, Kym McKay reflected on the bright future.

"Our season, one in which we stopped Dupage's dominance, cannot be diminished by a rally score fifth game which came down to the wire," she said. "We did so many positive things to help the program turn the corner. The girls should be very happy and proud about what they accomplished."

team All-Area player during his senior year at Minooka.

Myrick transferred from Hazard Community College in Kentucky after the college dropped basketball.

Last year, he averaged 20 points a game.

In a game against Morton on Nov. 7, Myrick scored 33 points for the Wolves.

Two freshmen expected to make a splash for the team are Jeff Oberg, a graduate of Lincoln-Way, and Parnell Jones, a graduate of Joliet Township.

Oberg has accumulated 24 points for the Wolves this season as of Nov. 10.

Jones averaged 15.7 points a game for JT last year.

The Wolves will also be hosting the JJC UPS Classic on Nov. 24 and 25.

Some of the other schools who will be participating in this event are Madison Tech, Lake County and North Park JV.



Sophomore Dustin Smith looks to pass the ball.

Photo courtesy of Athletics

Men's basketball season has begun

by Amy Hrubec

With five returning players, two incoming transfer players and several freshmen who took the spotlight their senior year of high school, the JJC Wolves men's basketball team is enjoying a great year.

Last year, the Wolves won the tournament. As of Nov. 10, the team was 2-0.

Currently, the team is ranked no. 7 in the NJCAA Division III preseason poll.

"We are very excited about the prospects of the upcoming season," said Head Coach Joe Kuhn in late October. "I believe that we will make steady progress as the season moves along."

The five returning players are point guard Dustin Smith, guard Jason Standford, forward Jelani Clark, forward Markus Ford and center Jeff Agba.

Last year, Smith led Region IV guards in assists with a 9.6 game average, and led the Wolves in scoring as a freshman.

He was also the All-Conference and All-Region Division III first selection last year.

As of Nov. 10, Smith had accumulated 23 points and 23 assists.

Second on the team last year,

Standford averaged 12.8 points

Clark, who is among the Division III leaders, averaged 10.4 points and 8.3 rebounds, which topped the team.

"We are very excited about the prospects of the upcoming season. I believe that we will make steady progress as the season moves along."
—Head Coach Joe Kuhn

Ford, who was one of the most improved players in Region IV, averaged 9.5 points.

At press time, he has accumulated 35 points and 17 rebounds.

Agba is another returning player. He did not see much playing time last year, but he has returned as an improved and different player.

This season, he has collected 29 points at press time.

The two transfer players include Zach Pucel and Larry Myrick. Pucel, a graduate of Minooka High School, transferred from Kishwaukee Community College.

He is expected to be a strong performer in the center position. Pucel was an All-Conference and a second



Pep rally held the bridge Friday October 27th

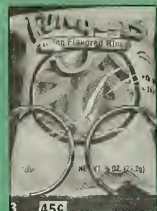
Photo by Larrena Guerrero



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LATE REPORT Housing approved

JJC Board of Trustees has approved student housing to be completed by fall 2002. See next issue for details.

Dual admissions agreement signed

by Vicki Baftri
and Michelle Tarrant

In early November, Joliet Junior College President of Student Services J.D. Ross and Northern Illinois University President John Peters signed a dual admissions agreement making the transfer process for students an easier and more helpful procedure.

Students, who have set a particular major and are having trouble transferring to a helpful university, now have the option of joining the NIU/JJC program. The new agreement allows students to smoothly transfer to NIU as a student and into the program of their intended major.

"For any program that NIU offers, the university will admit the student on a dual admissions basis," said Dr. Alan Hardersen, Vice President for Student Services at JJC.

The agreement also maximizes the resources of both JJC and NIU through shared advising, marketing and student services. It provides a continuum of courses, faculty and

resources during all four years of study as well.

Students will be able to complete general education classes and classes intended for their particular major at JJC. According to Hardersen, students will then receive a bachelor's degree from the college and transfer to NIU with a degree in hand.

The dual admissions program will also help students with the transfer process. Hardersen said that it is also in one's favor to be part of the program because it will be easier to receive information and counseling on classes while at NIU.

"The agreement would give the student some additional services that they may not get," he said. "Advisors would work more with the student at the university while they can get started here with the counseling services at JJC."

According to admissions data from Hardersen, the second largest number of students who go onto four-year colleges after JJC attend NIU. He also said that is why it was so important to discuss and finalize the agree-

ment with NIU.

Martinez Ramos, a JJC counselor, stated that a lot of students from JJC were transferring to NIU. All the courses taken at JJC through the program will automatically transfer to NIU, unless a revision occurs at the school.

"The agreement would give the student some additional services that they may not get."
Dr. Alan Hardersen

"All dual admissions are useful feedback from the universities and to the community colleges," she stated. "It is a very easy transition and runs smoothly. It also relieves a lot of headaches from the students."

JJC students who plan to attend NIU in the future will receive updates on their academic progress toward completion of their four-year program of study at NIU. This lets NIU admissions know exactly how courses will transfer to the university and where they stand in the transfer process. The

student then will not have to worry about whether or not a course will transfer.

This is not the only dual admission JJC has agreed to. Robert Morris College, Governors State University and the University of St. Francis are all part of dual admissions agreements. NIU also has dual admissions agreements in place with 16 different community colleges; more than any other university in Illinois.

Peters said that the new agreement also helps to endorse the opportunities JJC can provide as a gateway to four-year schools.

"We think very highly of the community college movement and our community college partners," he said at the signing ceremony.

Hardersen also said the largest number of students who decide to move onto a four-year college after JJC decide to go to Illinois State University.

"We have plans to do a similar connection with ISU we are systematically planning on going through the process with their university as well."

A letter to JJC students from J.D. Ross

Dear JJC Students:

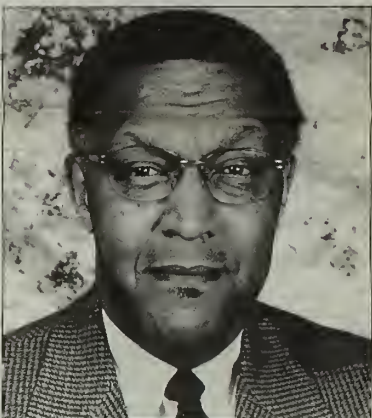
The November 15, 2000, issue of the Blazer correctly described Early Registration as a nightmare for students. Actually it was a nightmare for all involved, including students, counselors, advisors and registration staff. Though we thought that we were prepared for registration using an updated version of our registration software, we underestimated the amount of computer power that would be needed for the software to run smoothly. The results were long lines and students who were unable to register. I want to apologize to every student who was negatively impacted by this problem.

Since that day, November 8, we have been working very hard to correct the problems associated with registration process. We made some additional improvements to our existing computer, expanded registration hours, and this past Friday night the Board of Trustees authorized the administration to lease a new computer. It is unlikely that the new computer will arrive in time to help with spring registration. Consequently, we ask that you register for the spring term as soon as possible. Please do not wait until after the holidays.

The new computer will be here and in use by the time summer registration begins. The new hardware, coupled with the new hardware, will allow us to implement touch-tone registration. We also will be able to add Web-based registration in the not too distant future.

Again, I offer my apology to every student who experienced difficulties with the Early Registration process.

Sincerely,
J.D. Ross, President



Current hardware linked to registration woes

by Scott Hopkins

Any students registering for classes Nov. 8 were in for a major surprise. Due to a problem with Joliet Junior College's computer system, it took up to 20 minutes to register a single student.

However, this problem is bringing about changes in the Information Technology Department.

"The time it took to register a student at registration was 20 minutes," said Department Vice President Tony Cota.

"We have it down to five to seven minutes, that's just too long."

Earlier this year, the department was using software called Colgate. The system was recently upgraded from Release 1.3 to Release 1.6, a project called the R 16 Conversion.

The project was simply a software conversion. The upgrade allows new features such as online registra-

tion and will help staff members in many areas. The system has been tested for the past year and has been used for training staff members for the past three to four months.

According to the JJC Technology Department, the system needs more memory and new resources

However, registration day was infected with many glitches. Registration forms had to be taken from students and registered overnight.

It took until 10 p.m. to register every student who was waiting in line. This was not the first time any such problems have occurred with registration.

Many workers in the department have pinpointed the problems of this software change though. Apparently the problem is in the computer's hardware. According to the department the system needs more memory and new resources.

The school is replacing the main computer, a Hewlett-Packard 9000 that has been in use for the past five years.

A new processor is also needed. Also, Datatel, the company who produces the software, has recently come to JJC to look at the program and the problems.

At a recent JJC Board meeting, President of Student Services J.D. Ross said that the purchase of new equipment was a necessity.

"We usually don't bring this kind of expenditure here on such short notice," he said. "But it had to be done."

According to Cota, the goal is to bring registration time down to two to three minutes, which was the time it took on the old system.

As soon as the problem is tackled, the department plans on working on touch-tone and online registration services.

"We usually don't bring this kind of expenditure here on such short notice. But it had to be done."
J.D. Ross on the purchase of new hardware

Plans to assess, correct and purchase new equipment that will be suitable for the complete conversion are already in progress. The new computer system should be up and running by summer.

Sigh of the Times

By Tony Ciampa

Top 100 pop 'tart'

Over the past couple of weeks, we have been bemoaned with what we considered the best Pop songs writers. The list was put together by Rolling Stone magazine and MTV and was comprised of the top 100 What were they thinking?

I understand that everything in life is a big race to see who is the top dog, but to try to take an art form and make it into a race is an insult. Why take Pablo Picasso and Salvador Dali and ask which one is the better painter in a list? No one is the answer, so why are we doing it with this art?

It is a matter of opinion. Everybody has an opinion on what they like or else we would all be zombies like in the book, "1984" by George Orwell. The problem I have is that there are so many injustices on this list that the Supreme Court should be writing into these people to ask how they settled their list so fast and Florida is still being fought over.

My first beef is with whomever decided to leave Elvis Presley off this list. The Goo Goo Dolls make the list with "iris," but Elvis does not make the list once. I think there was a conspiracy against the king. The man is a legend. He wrote over twenty number one hits and not one made the list. I bet almost everyone out there can sing the words to such songs as "Blue Suede Shoes," "Hound dog" and "Heartbreak Hotel." I cannot tell you two lines from the Goo Goo Dolls song.

People will argue that they were trying to stay with more up to date bands and I will seeke back the list as a load of crap. If they were trying to conform to more local - era bands, they would have not included such people as Bob Dylan. The Rolling Stones and Ozzy Osbourne. All of these people are great artists and should look at being on this list as a slap to their art form face.

Another reason that this list is an insult to bands is because one major form of expression in music received the shaft in this list. That group would be rap. Yes, one or two songs did make it, but some of the

most influential pop songs of this art style did not. They left off Dr. Dre's song "Ain't Nothin but a G Thing" and Run DMC and Aerosmith's together singing "Walk This Way." These songs will set pop songs then the length of time as pop songs then the one's they choose.

In reflecting on this weekend after Thanksgiving, I can only see one way that a majority of these bands would make it on this list over other ones.

It had to be about money. When making the list, I can guarantee you that the record companies had to have pulled some strings to get some of their bands on this list. Think about when this list came out...right after Thanksgiving.

The weekend after Thanksgiving is considered the prime time for shopping for Christmas. All the big sales are going on. People are still over-stuffed with turkeys and feeling content with the idea of spending a little extra money.

What better way to get your record back in circulation of sales than by making a top 100 list? Looking at the big picture, it all makes sense.

My pissed off feelings about this have made me consider canceling my Rolling Stone subscription and never watching MTV again. After all, have we not seen enough of the "Real World" to make us puke?

What ever happened to enjoying music as an art form and not a competition? Music has always been a major influence in my life. In moments of sadness or happiness, it has always been there to get me through those times.

In looking at old mix tapes, I can see the transitions to the person I became in them. From the kid who loved to listen to Rock and couldn't stand country, to the adult who loves rap and rock now and still hates country.

Some things never change. Music is for listening to and enjoying for its artistic endeavors. It is not supposed to be placed on a list for shopping purposes. Shame on them.

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Opinion

An original present- HEMP?

by Matt Furlane

Every Christmas season I see people wait in line and wander aimlessly through the malls just so they can buy and later give the same unimaginative, cheaply produced gifts to their (un)loved ones.

Things like jewelry, CDs, perfume, video games, and brand name clothing that is horribly conformist. But for a number of years, there has been an increasingly more popular line of products that offer an original alternative to the usual.

Something stylish, comfortable, and environmentally beneficial. Something called Hemp.

I know what you're thinking. Isn't hemp like marijuana, huh?

No. Hemp is derived from the same Cannabis Sativa plant similar to the way plastic and gasoline come from a resource called crude oil.

It is famed in a entirely different manner than marijuana. You can not get high from it. It's a fabric like cotton or silk.

When did people start using it? It's been in use for nearly 5,000 years when the Chinese used it for rope and fishing nets.

Hemp was first introduced in the United States in the early 1800s when it was considered so important laws were passed ordering farmers to grow it.

It has been reported that George Washington and Thomas Jefferson were hemp farmers. The Betsy Ross

flag was 100 percent hemp cloth and the Declaration of Independence was written on hemp paper.

During World War II the government sponsored a program to encourage farmers to grow hemp for the war, including a 1942 documentary entitled "Hemp for Victory."

Does anyone use it now? Today, it is used to make a number of products including: clothes, canvas, detergents, gloves, jackets, yarn, lip balm, moisturizers, overalls, sandals, tea, and even wallpaper.

Convinced? Excellent! There are dozens of places to shop for hemp products.

Currently there are only two shops in the Joliet area that have some Hemp products: "For The Good Of It" located in the Twin Oaks plaza at the corner of Jefferson and Essington, carries products like hemp soap and balm.

"Rocky Mudder," located on Plainfield road east of the Crown Farm Road intersection has caps and purses.

For a wider selection of goods, go to the internet. You can find them simply by going to any search engine (Yahoo, Lycos, Altavista) and typing in the word hemp.

Some popular names to look for are: Of The Earth, The Great Canadian Hemp Company, Hemps, EcoDragon, Effer's Hempwear and SpiritStream & Magnific Organics

The website planethemp.com features products from various companies also.

Check several sites before you buy to get a feel for what's in there. Some sites specialize in the soaps and oils more than clothing. Others offer information and links.

If you order online, take into account shipping and handling and the time to deliver.

Be ready to explain what your gift is and that it's perfectly legal. Some family members might not accept the idea of wearing a hemp product, but you just have to say "it's a new fabric just our founding fathers were proud of."

I recommend you buy sweaters, gloves and hats because they can be put to immediate use. In the summer look for backpacks, shorts and sandals.

After digging around I picked out some products that may go to various family members and friends. My dad could get a hat and my mom could get candles and scented soaps.

Siblings will receive shirts and maybe winter clothing. Grandma will get a blanket; friends will get khakis or shoes.

The dog and cat will get something if I can find it. I think I will buy for myself a hemp t-shirt and sweater because no one in my family knows anything about hemp. But, after this Christmas they will all know.

Christmas Counterpoint

'Tis the stupid season: Don't eat here

By Michelle Tarrant

Shoo me. It's Christmas time in the mall. ANYWHERE in the place is over an hour. Shoppers should be locked in a cage while we throw chunks of meat at them.

When I inform them that the wait for a table is an hour, they say "WHERE in the place is over an hour."

"Yeah, right here and now," they hearily say. "Um, sir it is over an hour," I mumble audibly.

I secretly smile to myself knowing that this person will head up to the front desk, in a matter of minutes to ask the fated question of "HOW MUCH LONGER WILL MY TABLE BE READY?" I can't wait to tell him. "You checked in at 7:03 and we told you over an hour. It's now 7:09."

Usually, this retort is followed by some sort of expletive, along with the

demand of wanting to know why, I did it to him.

"Listen little miss hostess, you never told me it was going to be an hour."

"Actually sir, you're right," I state begrudgingly. "I didn't say it was going to be an hour for a table. I said over an hour."

I tell you. These shoppers are pretty darn nasty by the time they get to the eating part of their shopping trip. I think they should be locked in a cage while we throw chunks of meat at them and place bets on who will be the first one killed in the fight for food.

So please, during this holiday season, avoid the long lines at your favorite restaurant and head on down to McDonald's. They have those new mint shakes just in time for the holidays.

Helping old ladies find size 6 panties is not fun

by Kaylee Van Hoose

Yes, my favorite time of year comes once again... and it starts 6 a.m. the day after Thanksgiving.

Actually, get out of your warm comfy bed the day after the holiday that is known for its enormous food portions and go shopping so early in the morning that the sun isn't out yet. NOT ME.

Bui, I guess I don't count since I'm still at that certain department store where everyone rushes to save precious pennies with all the great sales.

Who am I? Yes, I'm that cheerful, smiling, helpful "selling team member" that is bossed up and down the store looking for the common size 32X30 Tommy Hilf size cargo pants that are on sale for one day only.

Don't get me wrong. I love working at a department store but people underestimate the power of the "you're doing the holiday shopping. I am their slave. I cater to their every

need, and I follow them like Mary's little lamb until they are satisfied with my findings.

Who would actually get out of their warm comfy bed to go shopping?

My job is to make all the shoppers happy. And you ask me, how hard can that be?

DIFFICULT. extremely difficult. Shoplifters, screaming babies, new and poorly trained sales associates running around like chickens with their heads chopped off, frazzled team members that can only find the bottoms of their gift boxes while "secret shoppers" hunt down their next victim, shoppers picking up sweaters. No good.

I'm a pretty patient sales associate when it comes to the holiday shoppers but I may amaze you when I say that shoppers aren't as patient with the sales associates. Last Christmas, a

man tried to bargain with me for almost an hour. He wanted me to sell him a \$45 bottle of CK one for \$5. I'm sorry to say, but I cannot negotiate prices.

After that, he tried to convince me sew on a "Tommy" logo onto my store's brand polo shirt. I couldn't tell if he was dead serious or if he was sent over by my fellow employees to give me a hard time.

Oh, that's not all, how about credit card fraud, stolen and worn clothing trying to be returned, teens trying to wear merchandise out of the store, the alarms going off at the entrances, running out of shopping bags, boxes, vouchers, gift cards, tissue paper, needing change for the registers and running around for hours at a time.

The holidays are so much fun at my department store. I tell you I feel like we have been preparing for the holidays since Sept. 16 when we decorated the Christmas tree and the lights when will it be over?! Oh yeah... 'tis the season to be jolly.

Students can buy books on-line

by Alanna Dillman

Used books always seem to be overpriced, especially when you only get ten to thirty percent back at the end of the semester.

Alternatives to buying and selling used books can be tricky—a random number on a bulletin board, or searching on amazon for your book.

Usebookbroker.com is a new web site that allows students to buy and sell books directly from other students. The service works a lot like EBAY.

After registering with the service and giving them your credit card and

checking account information, you can then bid on and sell books with a \$3 service charge and the shipper paying the postage.

The book is charged to your credit card and after a 10-day return period, the money is then deposited into the seller's checking account.

Unlike other stores, whatever the price students buy the book for, unless there is any damage to the book, you can sell the book back for the same price.

It's easy to use and offers an extensive help page to answer questions about the web site.

Brown bag lecture explores ethics in society and education

by Kaylee Van Hoose

On Nov. 29, students and faculty were invited to attend the last lecture in the Brown Bag series. Dr. Bansraj Mattai, the department chair for the social and behavioral sciences, ended the series with a serious and important topic of ethics in today's society and education called "The Practical Side of Ethical Principles."

"This is not an area like physics..." said Mattai.

According to Mattai, in following decades, psychologists, sociologists and anthropologists have been studying the importance of ethics and feels that it is not hard to convince people what is good, right and proper.

He described society as some with a moral schizophrenia in which schizophrenia is a mental disease fragmented into inconsistent parts. He also said that psychopaths and sociopaths are just those who have not grown up.

"They treat lives as play things," he said at the informative lecture.

"We have to have a sense of self... who we are as individuals," said Mattai. "We use power to destroy each other physically."

He also talked about the impor-

tance of religion. According to Mattai, Christianity dominates the U.S. yet people believe that it is possible to be religious part time.

"You are either religious all the time or not; you are either moral all the time or you are not," said Mattai.

Mattai believes that people are so prone to judge people but should concentrate on the "self" instead. He feels that individuals should recognize who they are and that they are essentially different from any other species.

"Yes, you are a physical being, but you are also an emotional, intellectual and spiritual being," said Mattai. "Most of your lives are caught up in the physical being... materialism."

"If actions have consequence then negative actions have negative reactions," said Mattai. "If you want to be respected by a student, then respect your student."

He feels people are in society when they speak the language. As the lecture ended Mattai closed with a bit of helpful advice.

"All of us must stand for something or else we will fall for everything."

New art exhibit on display



A student observes the new art exhibit at the Joliet Arsenal in the Laura Sprague Art Gallery. Photo by Laura Murphy

EDITORIAL

We have the right to fight for our food

Tick. Tack. Tick. Only 10 minutes left in your English class before it's time to head on over to the J-Building for history.

As you squirm in your chair, anxiously awaiting the end of your teacher's ramblings, your tummy lets out a large growl.

In the meantime, you decide to dig through your pocket, book bag or any item that may ante up enough change to buy a bag of Chee-tios and a Coke before running to your next

class.

You deposit your well-earned dollar all in nickels and dimes mind you, into the nearest vending machine. You follow the seemingly simple instructions to get a crunchy snack. PRESS THE LETTER AND NUMBER OF THE FOOD ITEM YOU WOULD LIKE.

Please do not hit, kick or attack the vending machines!!??

You think to yourself, ah ok. I can do this, and go on to select B3, Chee-tios.

Next, you see the air-filled bag of delicious, crunchy and cheesy goodness twirl its way through the machine's food dispenser.

Just as you are about to crutch down and pick up your treat, you notice the treat isn't falling. IT'S STUCK.

In a flailing effort, you look around for assistance, only to see other students waiting to receive their delectable goodies. So, in a last ditch effort, you continue to punch the B and 3 buttons until your fingers are about to bleed.

There is now nothing left to do, but the inevitable. You back up about 10-15 feet away from the machine and hurl your body at it, with arms and legs rotating in a defense mode.

Just as you are about to plunge headfirst into the machine, you notice a sign.

"Please do not hit, kick, or attack the vending machines." Um, what kind of sign is that?

How the heck is a student supposed to get their Chee-tios? Fritos, Doritos, Tostitos and heck, anything that ends in ITO?

We at the Blazer see no other option than to beat the machine bloody until we get our food, it's not our fault the machines are faulty and take our hard-earned dinero.

We feel that we have all rights to kick the end out of these so-called FOOD DISPENSING machines until we get what we paid for.

So, until this problem is solved, do not be surprised if you hear glass breaking or students aching from injuries received while trying to eat a simple snack.

JJC offers many tutoring programs

by Jesse C. Cohoon

Most students are unaware that three different tutoring programs are offered at Joliet Junior College. The three programs, Academic Skills, Special Needs and Project Achieve, are all part of the ongoing process to help students with their study skills.

The Academic Skills Center, directed by Charlene Wagner, is a program open to all students who are currently enrolled at JJC in regular adult classes or part of the adult education program. It is funded by a federal grant called the Work Study Program.

According to Wagner, the mission of the center is to provide academic assistance to a diverse population of students so they can enhance their learning skills. For information or to schedule an appointment call ext. 2284.

The Special Needs Department is directed and coordinated by Carol Smith. The support program for academics provides services to students with disabilities or health concerns and tutorial support to students enrolled in targeted majors.

The program is funded by Carl Perkins and the Federal Legislation Board, which gives the funding to the Illinois Community College Board, the Disadvantaged Student Grant Program and JJC.

The Special Needs Department is also in charge of S.T.A.R. - Student Accommodations and Resources. "The name was selected to show the types of students that are helped," said Smith.

The Disabled students must provide documentation of their disability and a determination of their qualification in the program is then made. Help is on an individualized basis depending on a student's specific disability.

Most students in the program are

referred by faculty, high school counselors and through the Office of Rehabilitation Services. Other students interested in the project are invited to come in and seek information on the program.

Note takers, sign language interpreters, adaptive software and software that reads text are among the services offered in this unique program. For information contact Smith at ext. 2220.

Project Achieve is directed by Jewel Dennis and is available for use for anyone who falls into one of more of these three categories: low income

families, disabilities or first generation college students. The program is funded through a grant from the Department of Education and JJC itself.

"Students need to be advocates for each other instead of having someone lead them," she said about the program.

The tutoring subjects offered are math, English and computer information systems.

Dennis hopes to add biology and other sciences to the program in the future. For information contact Dennis at ext. 2455.

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News briefs

JJC hosting New Year's Eve gala

The Joliet Junior College Renaissance Center will host a New Year's Eve gala in the Grand Ballroom.

Hors d'oeuvres will be available from 7-8:30 p.m. with a six-course meal following. The menu includes tenderloin of beef served with smoked bacon-wrapped shrimp, mushroom rosemary jus, herb-crusted potatoes and baby vegetables.

Entertainment will be provided. Also included is open bar during cocktail hour, sweets table and champagne toast at midnight.

Cost is \$75 per person. For reservations, call Susan Stockwell at (815) 280-1404.

JJC hosts brunch with Santa

Joliet Junior College is hosting a brunch with Santa at the college's Renaissance Center. The brunch will be served from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17.

Santa will be present from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Guests are invited to bring their cameras for photos with Santa. The cost is \$12.95 for adults, \$11.95 for seniors and \$5.95 for children. Call ext. 1404 for details.

Joliet offers personal interest classes

Joliet Junior College's Lifelong Learning program is offering non-credit personal interest and development classes throughout the spring semester.

The following classes meet at the Main Campus, 1215 Houlihan Road, Joliet.

Small Engine Maintenance (BVS 918) meets from 9-11:40 a.m. Saturdays, Jan. 13-March 17. Class emphasizes maintenance and repair on two- and four-cycle engines. Fee is \$82.50.

Bar-tending on the Rocks (LLC 2200) meets from 9-10:30 a.m. or 10:45-12:15 p.m. Saturdays, Feb. 10-March 3. Fee is \$32.

Boating Skills and Seamanship (LLC 2210) meets from 7-9 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 1-Feb. 22. Coast Guard training officers teach safety, boating language and boat handling. Fee is \$34 per family.

Private Pilot Ground School (LLC 2212) meets from 7-9:45 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 22-May 7. Class pre-

pares students to take the private pilot written exam. Fee is \$157.

Writing Analysis (LLC 2232) meets from 7-9:45 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 22-May 7. Class prepares students to take the private pilot written exam. Fee is \$157.

Parapsychology (LLC 2400) meets from 7-9 p.m. Fridays, Feb. 16-April 13. Fee is \$71.

ACT Prep Workshop (LLC 2420) meets from 9 a.m.-noon Saturdays, Feb. 10-24. Fee is \$36.

Swing Dancing (LLC 2431) meets from 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 9-Feb. 13 or Feb. 20-April 3. Fee is \$54.

Ballroom Dancing (LLC 2432) meets from 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 25-March 1. Fee is \$54.

Swing Dancing II (LLC 2433) meets from 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays, April 10-May 15. Fee is \$54.

To register for any of these classes, call 1-800-369-2200.

PET ADOPTION

by Kaylee Van Hoose

The Veterinary Medical Technology program is offering a new group of dogs and cats for adoption. Dogs and cats are technically adopted through the Joliet Animal Control.

The animals will be heartworm tested, fecal tested, have all vaccinations and also have a microchip implant for identification.

Some dogs are neutered and if not part of the adoption fee, will be used with the Vet of choice from

Animal Control. Adoption fee for a neutered animal is \$15.

The animals will be available this Friday, Dec. 8 for adoption.

There are 13 dogs and 10 cats available for adoption at press time. Those interested can view pictures of the animals on the Vet Tech club webpage.

Also, the animals can be viewed by calling the facility managers, Susan Ripper from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Caroline Krupa from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. at extension 2765.

Veterans still honored

by Michelle Tarrant

Many students pass it everyday and still do not stop to ponder its significance at JJC.

The JJC Vietnam Memorial Wall for war veterans located on the Bridge still brings family members and alumni to the school to remember the deceased.

Mark Johnson, a student trustee at JJC 15 years ago, tries to visit the wall every year and places a flower near a name of a young soldier who lost his life in Vietnam.

"It (the memorial) was a project that I helped to get organized and

built," Johnson stated. "I go there every year to put the flowers there."

For some families, this is one of the only places to remember loved ones who were lost in conflict. The memorial is still a sharp reminder of the casualties of war and the honor these individuals brought to the country.

Although the project was completed over a decade ago, it surely will remain a tribute to all who lost their lives for the nation.

Planned for next fall, the traveling Vietnam Wall will be brought to JJC. For information on the wall committee, contact the JJC website.

New club for students is 'unstoppable'

by Kaylee Van Hoose and Andre Pope

The Office of Student Services and Activities is sponsoring a new club that can influence disabled students' involvement at Joliet Junior College.

JJC sophomore, Katie Meskimen, has created a new club called the "Unstoppable Challengers" to concentrate on students with disabilities. Living with a disability herself, Meskimen believes that JJC is in need for this type of organization due to the number of disabled students that attend JJC.

"Unstoppable Challengers is a club mainly for people with disabilities," said Meskimen. "However, people interested in disability issues may also join."

According to Meskimen, meeting times are yet to be determined due to schedules and the number of interested people, but there will be more information available in the near future.

"Unstoppable Challengers is a club mainly for people with disabilities. However, people interested in disability issues may also join."

-Katie Meskimen

Meskimen has high hopes that the club will finally establish a name for itself.

"This club was once established but never really got off the ground," said Meskimen.

Possible topics of discussion include how to raise money, for Easter Seals, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), accessibility, housing and transportation.

"I feel it is important that students with disabilities have somewhere to go to be involved," said Meskimen.

Unstoppable challengers is easy to join. Students and faculty that are interested in joining the Unstoppable Challengers can leave their names and phone numbers in the organization's mailbox, outside of Student Services or contact the JJC website for more information.

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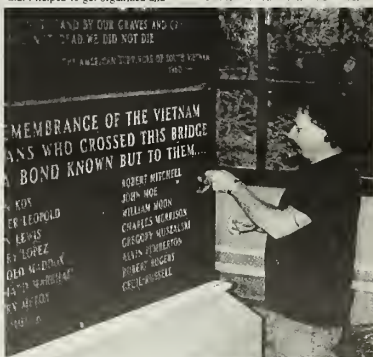
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Mari Johnson places a flower in the memorial wall located on the Bridge. Photo by Laura Murphy

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December 6, 2000

JJC Cisco program offers career training

by Kaylee Van Hoose

Joliet Junior College's newest program gives students two key benefits including skills which are in high demand, and also a good chance for a career with a big starting salary.

The two-year Cisco program prepares students to obtain Cisco certification as a Cisco Certified Network Associate and also for certification as a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer.

With this training in hand, students are prepared to enter the workforce as certified Cisco technicians, where starting pay often falls in the \$45,000-\$50,000 range for entry-level positions.

Companies that employ Cisco technicians include Lucent, AT&T and Telfabs.

"The skills students will obtain in these classes are top of the line," said Ram Raghuraman, JJC Computer Information and Office Systems Department chair in a recent press

release. "It readies them for an enviable place in the work world in only two short years."

The demand of Cisco networking technologists is increasing because Cisco is the leading provider in the Internet/web-related routing industry, and most companies, large and small, have Cisco-related components.

Students wishing to have Cisco certification have two options at JJC.

They can take only the four Cisco classes over the course of two years, or receive an associate's degree in Computer Network.

Technology by completing the full program, which includes other networking-related courses in addition to the four Cisco classes. At the completion of coursework, the students are eligible to take the certification exams.

Plainfield High School senior, Janine Schmidt, is a student in the Cisco program. Everyday, she drives from the high school to North

Campus.

She is one of five students enrolled in the program from Plainfield High School and is the only girl in her class instructed by Kathy Wagner.

"The class is pretty much self-taught," said Schmidt. "We come in sit down boot up and read after two hours we power down and leave."

End of story. Once in a blue moon the teacher will say something to use but like I said once in a blue moon.

It is in a silent class for about two hours listening to my CDs on the computer and read the chapters online and then take a chapter test about once a week.

Schmidt not only receives three high school credits, but also receives the regular college credits.

Other high school students come from Bolingbrook, Romeoville and Lemont. In order to enroll in the

class, students must first have a background check in their education history and also get referrals from teachers.

"If you go into the program as a junior and then your senior year, you can get all four certificate parts and can take a test and become a Cisco Certified Tech," said Schmidt.

"You can take the test whenever you want but it's better to get all four parts in the class done and then take the test."

With the official test, you can go into any computer job and get hired on the spot. JJC only prepares you for that test."

Because the coursework is offered over the span of four different semesters, students get in-depth instruction that includes both theory and hands-on training.

Students learn about the functions of hubs, switches and routers and protocol, principles, case studies and management related to these components.

"The Cisco program at JJC is very thorough, not to mention very affordable. The college is very dedicated to this instruction and to seeing its students succeed," said Raghuraman.

JJC opened a new Cisco lab at its North Campus this summer. Students are able to receive online instruction from Cisco, with two full-time JJC faculty members assigned specifically to the Cisco program.

Both faculty members received rigorous curriculum training to prepare them for instructing the Cisco courses.

"I can't emphasize enough how hands on this program is. The curriculum is cutting edge and is designed and updated by Cisco," Raghuraman said.

Ram was also sure to mention that "the JJC faculty members work with the students as they proceed through the online portion and the hands on."

New friend 'moo'ves into JJC

by Amber Alling

Dick Smerz, graduate of the Agricultural Business Program, recently donated a plaster cow to JJC's Agriculture Department. Smerz, 69 of Manhattan, is the oldest graduate of the two-year program.

Initially, the idea of purchasing a cow originated while Smerz was a sophomore. In Chicago, a different cow decorated with an agricultural theme was found, but the artist refused to sell it.

After graduating, Smerz and his wife Lillian decided to give back to the school by making the donation. Remembering the department's inquiry the year before, the Smerzs decided the cow was the right choice.

JJC's new display is currently in the Fine Arts Department waiting the completion of designs for the Smerzs to examine. JJC art class students are



Dick and Lillian Smerz are "proudly" proud to show off JJC's newest friend, expected to participate in the decorating of the cow as well.

Intended for one side of the cow, a design of JJC's history is planned, while the other will have an agricultural theme. After the painting is completed, agricultural department officials say that is should be displayed for the upcoming centennial celebration.

JJC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEW registration hours for Spring are noon - 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday.

The JJC Greenhouse is holding a poinsettia sale daily from 8 a.m. - noon & 1-3:30 p.m. For information call 815-280-2511.

The 23rd Annual Madrigal Feast will be held Dec. 8 at the Renaissance Center at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$36 per person and all proceeds go to music scholarships. For reservations call 815-280-2273.

The Student Accommodations and Resources Department is seeking a dependable person to drive a blind student back and forth from her home in Mokena to JJC in January.

Her schedule requires her to be at JJC between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. For information contact Carol Smith in J-2025 or email at keery@jic.edu.

A Winter Concert will be held Dec. 10 at 3 p.m. in the Fine Arts Theatre. For more information please contact the fine arts list at ext. 2223.

The Renaissance Center will host a New Year's Eve gala in the Grand Ballroom. Hors d'oeuvres will be available along with a six-course meal. The cost is \$75 per person. For information or reservations call Susan Stockwell at ext. 1404.

An Ethical Fitness Seminar will be held Jan 10 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. For reservations contact Pam at ext. 2302. Seats are limited.

Horoscopes

By: Matt Packard

Aries

You are handling all of the tragedy surrounding you extraordinarily well. Your impending doom should have you in tears, yet you seem invincible. It's almost as if you have no idea what's going on at all.

Taurus

"Don't be upset that you spent so much money on Christmas gifts for your friends. Try to focus your grief on the fact that they don't like you."

Gemini

You like those chee-to's? Me too. Too bad they are stuck in the vending machine.

Cancer

If you've ever referred to your vehicle as "the beast," you might be a cancer.

Leo

You're reminiscent of Clifford Stills' "The Painting," except that you're not the most infuriating piece of an ever.

Virgo

It's better to be safe than sorry. Who says this? As if anyone would rather be sorry than safe? And don't even get me started on "I could care less."

Libra

You will be tempted to donate loose change to the bell ringer guys outside the mall. Then it will occur to you: "If I need has no reason," why aren't they out there all year? Perhaps you should donate it anyway, rather than dropping it onto lowly mall employees from the upper level.

Scorpio

You will find that your parents no longer think it's cute when you hide in the circular clothing racks at Wal-Mart.

Sagittarius

Things don't look good for you at all. You might want to check out Sydney Omarr's horoscopes. He seems to think you have all kinds of nice things in store for you.

Capricorn

Everything you enjoy will be there for you and will provide you with sunshine and success this month, unless you enjoy your immune system.

Aquarius

Despite your magical season, your ranking will reflect your cake-walk non-conference schedule.

Pisces

The number 26 and 27 will come into play this month, with former representing the number of times you will be bitten by that robotic dog and the latter being the number of times it will occur in a parallel dimension, unannounced to you.

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JJC financial aid assists students

by Adkins Jones

"Show me the money!" Those are the words that many struggling college students enter in hope of gaining some funds of financial aid for tuition, books and expenses.

Fortunately for those in search of education-saving cash, the financial aid office has much information, features and programs that many students might not be aware of.

Besides traditional loans and grants, there are a couple of federal work-study programs available for those eligible.

America Reads and America Counts have both been around for four years and provide students \$7.50 per hour to tutor children from kindergarten to ninth grade.

The tutoring takes place at elementary schools and at libraries with varying hours, which can cater toward the students' schedule.

Twenty hours a week are the

maximum amount possible.

Besides having to be qualified for federal work-studies, students must have a 2.0 G.P.A. or above to be a part of the America Reads program or a 3.0 G.P.A. or above for America Counts program.

"These programs are for anyone who is interested, but it is especially good for students who are going into teaching," explained Diane Kozelski, financial aid specialist.

Also new this year is a game of 20 Questions. Actually it is a mandatory quiz that given upon receiving financial aid to ensure the students are fully aware of the details involved with the process.

To pass, the student must get 18 out of the 20 correct or the funds will not be given out.

The first thing that must be done to even be considered for these work-study programs or partake in the quiz is applying for form of course.

Filling out a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form does this. It usually takes three weeks for the form to get processed.

From there, a student aid report is created which then cites what the total amount of funds are available via loans and grants.

There are many factors that take place in the eligibility process. There is no set standard to who is qualified. Things like family size, number of siblings attending college and income maintain large roles when deciding how much money, if any, will bless the accounts of students.

"We encourage everyone to apply and as soon as possible," urged Kozelski.

The financial aid office is always taking appointments for any questions. Their hours are usually from 7 a.m.-8 p.m. on Monday through Thursday and 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on Fridays.

JJC holds auditions for the risqué Cabaret

by Scott Bessler

Auditions for the annual Joliet Junior College Fine Arts Department musical, *Cabaret*, will be held this Tuesday, Dec. 12 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. and Wednesday, Dec. 13 from 3-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.

They will take place in the Fine Arts Theater in "K" building on main campus.

With music and lyrics by John Kander and Fred Ebb, and book by Joe Masteroff, *Cabaret* tells the story of an English woman's romance with an American writer set against the background of a crumbling Germany.

Occupants of the infamous Kit Kat Club, located in Berlin, attempt to use a mix of fantasy and debauchery to ignore the imminent rise of the Nazis.

Well-known songs from this musical include "Don't Tell Mama," "Maybe This Time," and of course, "Cabaret."

This provocative musical was selected by and will be directed by Dr. Zachary Bloomfield and musical direction will be by Sue Malnberg.

"The directors get to choose the show they're directing," said Bloomfield.

"This year I wanted to do a more

political work... while avoiding similar time periods of shows being done this season, and have variety from recent musicals."

This production calls for an approximately 30-member cast, with roughly six or seven major characters.

Anyone wishing to audition for the musical should memorize a brief song from a musical and be prepared to read from the script.

"This year I wanted to do a more political work... and have variety from recent musicals."
-Director Dr. Zachary Bloomfield.

Auditions are open to all Community College District 525 residents and all Joliet Junior College students as well.

The show will be presented Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 1, 2, 3 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, March 4 at 2:30 p.m. in the Fine Arts Theater in "K" building.

For more information on auditions or show information, call (815) 280-2200.

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CD REVIEWS

Spice Girls aren't flashy; Outkast intelligent; Manson 'Holy Wood' is solid

by Matt Packard

CD Ratings:

- ***** - Excellent
- **** - Great
- *** - Good Tunes
- ** - Not worth the \$15
- * - Not worth the wax

Spice Girls

Forever

Before the new Spice Girls disc was released, I anticipated trying to convince B96 listeners that the girls had grown up and put together a great dance collection.

While I still treat the disc as if I carried it in my womb for the past two years, I cannot recommend it with a straight face.

There are some good dance songs produced by Rodney Jerkins and one good song produced by Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis. However, the

large amount of "good" is the only one that seems fair.

There is nothing too flashy and nothing too fun on this disc. Their sound had matured. They have evolved from bubble gum sugary-lips stacks of wintergreen, certainly pleasant but nothing to get excited about.

There is one absolutely wonderful song called "Let Love Lead the Way." I'm sure this ballad, along with "Time Goes By" and "If You Wanna Have Some Fun" would do nicely on MTV if they didn't have the "Spice Girls" name attached to them.

Apparently, the fickle U.S. is not going to let the girls back into their mainstream. I cannot suggest that anyone who is not a fan should try to become one now, but if Santa's elves (or myself in costume) slip this disc

into your CD player while your back is turned, you might find surprises.

Outkast

Stankonia

**** 1/2

A great deal of the new Outkast disc defies description. Upon first spin, anyone who is not familiar with the duo would likely call this disc sloppy and senseless.

After a second and third spin, it is likely that they would be listening too closely to say anything about it. Introspective, intelligent and humorous tracks surround the wonderfully crafted "Ms. Jackson" and the truly revolutionary "B.O.B."

Big Boi and Andre touch valuable lessons about overcoming obstacles (Humble Mumble), jealousy and karma (Red Velvet), and offer typical "life where we live" themes (Gasoline Dreams).

The messages are there to be taken; yet they don't come off as preachy. Well, I suppose it would be impossible to come off as preachy when you rap as fast as they do at

times.

The point is that you can get just as much out of this album by just bobbing your head.

Everything about this album lends to the credibility and respect that Outkast has earned over the years. This is everything a hip-hop album should be in the year 2000. ****1/2

Marilyn Manson

Holy Wood

(In the Shadow of the Valley of Death)

*** 1/2

Manson is a hell of a performer (pardon the pun). He always finds something to fight against, even when he's just swinging wildly.

Now that the novelty of make up and death has worn off like the make up on the faces of his now aging followers, he could probably do wonderful things if he found something to fight for.

He is terribly subtle outside of the

workplace, but before the microphone he is still a flaming spirit. It has been reported that the band spent a great deal of time mutilating and compromising their instruments to get interesting sounds.

Manson is a hell of a performer (pardon the pun). He always finds something to fight against, even when he's just swinging wildly.

While my untrained ear didn't detect any unique sounds, I did notice some solid music. The opening, "Godeatgod" builds up nicely to an explosion that never happens (which is kind of amusing), while a number of these tracks sound very contemporary.

This disc borrows from everyone from Blur to Very Secretary to Marilyn Manson.

It's furious, punkish, melodic at times, emotional, and everything else we've come to expect from Mr. Manson.

A lot of this would work well on rock radio if rock radio still worked well. But I think Marilyn is satisfied with preaching to the choir.

***1/2

Beastie Boys rock in DVD Video Anthology

by Vicky Baffiri

The third best DVD: Beastie Boys DVD Video Anthology

The people that know me know that I am a huge fan of the Beastie Boys. Most of my friends here at JJC even know that I love the Beastie Boys.

You may also know that most everyone has 15 minutes of fame, well I achieved that 15 minutes of fame on MTV. Yup, I was on the MTV news show 1515 for being the #1 Beastie fan.

So I would say have some expertise in this subject matter. Someone even told me that I should major in Beastieography and minor in everything else.

The Beastie Boys are true pioneers of hip-hop music. They are innovators, musicians and now as we have come to find out, producers and directors. It has been two whole years and nothing has come out form them until now.

So what has Beastie member MCA been doing all year? He certainly hasn't been lazing about.

He's been sitting in an editing bay piecing together nearly every ounce of video footage ever shot for what is by far, the most complete collection of Beastie Boys videos ever assembled.

This is sure to be one of the best music DVD's ever created and quite possibly the third greatest DVD ever released. This can be a thrill for all Beastie fans like me, or it can be a thrill for all the digital geeks (just like me). This 2-DVD piece will lend

sound credence to the rumors that MCA is a certifiable home theatre geek.

What's more, it's coming out from Criterion, the definitive DVD collection creators. If you know anything about DVD's, you know this is not to be taken lightly.

What's in it? Fair question. Over 100 video angles and audio tracks swivable at any time during playback allowing hours of possible image and sound combinations.

Plus each song on the DVD has multiple remixes to be used as alternate audio while you watch the video.

The remixes were done by a number of talented artists such as The Beastie Boys themselves, DJ Cheapsoph, Fatboy Slim, Latch Brothers, Micky Finn & Special K, Mobo, Soul Assassins and many more.

Want more? How about an interview with the cast of their music video and song "Sabotage" and the world premier director's cut of "Intergalactic" with a spin off between The Robot and Octopus monster saga? There is also optimal image quality with RS2L dual-layer editions and optional English subtitles.

In short, it's no joke. If you like the Beastie Boys or just DVD's and awesome music, you probably will want this hot item. Can you get it? Well, now for starters. It is available at all stores that have DVD collections. Christmas is around the corner and this would be the perfect gift for the special someone.

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Look for Dave Matthews and Twisted-7 Reviews in January.

December 6, 2000

Chicago's sports teams scouring the bottom in every aspect

by Tony Ciampa

In my overabundant feelings of love and trust for this city's team owners to produce winners, I have given innumerable amounts of my time to watching these teams evolve. Evolve into what, you ask?

They have evolved into the worst bunch of owners in a city with such a big market. Bad decision after bad decision I have stuck, by you owners, but no more. I must lash out!

To the Cubs General Manager Andy Macphail or should I spell it McFall, what are you doing? We all know and love Sammy Sosa for his great power and big smile. He is Chicago.

We embrace him with open arms and you push him out the door as if he is the step-child you hate. Macphail, do me a favor and sign the man back on the team for years to come. He

lives and breaths the Cubs almost as much as the other guy you are basically tossing out for years of dedicated service. Mark Grace.

In recent months, Sosa's agent, Andy Katz, has had to come to the realization that his player is just not wanted for the money he is worth. Katz is willing to deal with Macphail for a trade of Sosa somewhere else as long as it is under the right conditions: maybe to Texas, or Colorado where his numbers would balloon.

"Our first choice is to get the deal done," said Katz. "I don't question Andy's honesty or heart, but I do question his analysis—his drawing of the line in the sand. The negotiations have to come to a conclusion. Either by a deal or acrimony, they will conclude."

As of late, Macphail has put his money and efforts into trying to sign a great pitcher rather than Sosa. Is he

Commentary

going to tell us that they do not have enough money to spend for two marquee players?

Many of us know this is ludicrous because one of the richest players in the land owns the Cubs: the Chicago Tribune.

I know that Wrigley Field will always sell. It is one of the world's best spots to be on a lazy afternoon in the summer, so to say they have no money would be an insult to us all.

To Andy 'McFall': What are you doing?

Do the right thing and sign them both to give us a contender we deserve in Chicago. In an effort to get Macphail and the rest of the tributers to put a winning team out there, maybe we should tear down Wrigley Field.

That will only bring the real fans to the new stadium and attendance would dwindle again to get the point across that we want a good team.

To team owner Bill Wirtz of the Chicago Blackhawks, to put it kindly, your team sucks. The TNN rollerbladers give kick harder than your defencemen.

Attendance is crumbling at the United Center, and yet, you still will not place an investment into your team that would draw people back to the frozen pond to watch your team 'challenge for the Stanley Cup'.

Is it going to take the Chicago Wolves outplaying and selling more tickets for you to finally get it through your head that the team is not that good? Recently Eric Daze came out and blatantly said that he wants to be traded.

Working for an owner that will

not put forth an effort to place a good team on the ice makes any worker disenchanted with his place of employment. The draft can only solve so much.

Speaking of the draft brings me to the discussion of the Bulls and 'The Sleuth', Jerry Krause. He calls himself 'The Sleuth' because he believes that if there is a player out there that no one sees the potential in, he will find him in the draft and make a star out of him.

The last time he made any great pick of circumstance to helping the Bulls was the No. 1 pick. How can you screw that up? As of the last draft, Krause chose Marcus Fizer and Jamal Crawford No. 1, and both of them sit on the bench over half of each game.

Lately Crawford rarely gets a chance to play until garbage time. A fragile thing to do with a kid who is making millions and is supposed to be your future point guard.

It will only take a few more months on the bench before Crawford backlashes at his being on the team and not playing. You do not pick someone in the first round of the draft to sit on the bench.

The owner, Jerry Reinsdorf, did try to give millions of dollars to free agents in an effort to bring a contender to Chicago.

His problem is that he let Krause do the talking. As we all have seen in the past, Krause is only good for being the blunt end of fat jokes by the players.

He has never been known as the great enigmatic to becoming a Bull.

In the past, we had championships and Michael Jordan to entice a player. Nowadays, we have millions of dollars and no chance at winning. Which one is better?

In an educated world, Krause and Reinsdorf would have offered Jordan

an opportunity to be an ambassador of sorts to incoming free agents for the Bulls.

Way to go guys. Another blunder by ownership in losing a perfect chance at a great opening to invite free agents to see what kind of company you are.

Reflecting on all of the problems with these teams and all the owners, I think they should try to push the blame on other people. That is what big companies and owners do, right?

As we all have seen in the past, Jerry Krause of the Bulls is only good for being the blunt end of fat jokes by the players.

They could point to the guy who drives the zamboni. "It is because he did not smooth the ice good enough that my players are playing so bad."

They could say that the court was laid down bad, so the ball does not bounce quite right on the floor.

That would explain all the turnovers. Maybe the grass crew at Wrigley is over saturating the grass with water. The ball is moving too slow through the infield because of this problem.

Whatever the problem is it does not account for the combined efforts of the Bears, Bulls and Blackhawks in wins being 13, while the Minnesota Vikings have 11 wins by themselves.

Owners and GMs, please do something about your teams or lose your television broadcasts. Nobody wants to watch a loser.

Potential in women's B-ball

by Tony Ciampa

Not even the great play of sophomore center Crissy Beary could keep the JJC Lady Wolves basketball team from falling to Illinois Valley College 84-44 in a non-conference match.

The Lady Wolves showed the potential to win by beating College of Lake County 51-47.

Beary showed her skills on the court with her third double-double of the year. She scored 11 points and added 10 rebounds in the loss.

The Lady Wolves record of 1-5 this season is a reflection of the loss of four extremely talented sophomores from last year and the growing pains of a young and developing team.

One major blow was the loss of Felicia Randle as she transferred to another college. Randle in the school's all-time leading rebounder with 707 career rebounds. Randle averaged 15.5 rebounds per game last season for the Lady Wolves. That is a very difficult player to replace.

On a high point for the season, the Lady Wolves showed the potential to win by beating College of Lake County 51-47.

Carly Gura led with 17 points and Beary was solid with 14 points, 11 rebounds and 6 steals. Beary went on to grab all-tournament team by having 30 points, 26 rebounds, and 10 steals in the tournament play.

With this potential, the Lady Wolves will be trying to keep their heads up as the upcoming schedule plays out.

Future of men's basketball looks good

by Tony Ciampa

In a season where the Joliet Junior College Wolves basketball team has expectation to live up to from last years record of 21-11 and a national ranking of 7th overall this year, the Wolves beat Illinois Valley Community College on Nov. 28, 76-69 in a non-conference game.

Leading the charge for the Wolves was sophomore forward/center Steve Farmer.

Farmer ended the night with a phenomenal 18 points and 21 rebounds to give him his fourth dou-

ble-double of the season.

The Wolves are now 6-3 overall and 5-1 at Wills Gymnasium this year. JJC grabbed the lead in the first half with a 44-27 lead going into half time.

Behind Farmers second half outburst of 14 points and 16 rebounds, the Wolves would find that the rest of the game to their liking as they coasted to victory.

Also contributing to the awesome victory was point guard Dustin Smith who had 14 points and 12 assists.

Smith is leading the team in assist

by averaging 6.7 per game. Others adding their contributions were Larry Myrick with 17 points and Jason Standeford with 10 points.

Some upcoming games for the Wolves at home will be on Dec. 18 versus Lake Michigan College and Dec. 21 against McHenry County College. Both games start at 7p.m.

Remember, a college basketball season is a marathon, not a sprint. It is how you progress and finish at the end of the season rather than how you begin," commented JJC's Head Men's Basketball Coach Joe Kuhn.

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